

THE
Squire of Alfatia,
A
COMEDY.

As it is Acted by Their
Majesties Servants,

Written by *Tho. Shadwell*, Poet Laureet, and
Historiographer Royal.

*Creditur, ex medio quia res arcessit, habere
Sudoris minimum, sed habet Comædia tanto
Plus oneris, quanto veniæ minus.*

Hor. Ep. ad Aug. l. lib. 2.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *James Knapton*, at the Crown in *St. Paul's
Church-yard*, 1693.



Taylor Fund

An Explanation of the Cant.

A *Lsatia*. VVhite-fryers.
Prig, Prigster. Pert Coxcombs.
Bubble, Caravan. The Cheated.
Sealer. One that give Bonds and Judgments for Goods and Money.
A Put. One who is easily wheedled and cheated.
Coale, Ready, Rhino, Darby. Ready money
Rhinocercical. Full of money.
Megs. Guineas.
Smelts. Half-Guineas.
Decus. A Crown piece
George. A Half-Crown.
Hog. A Shilling.
Sice. Six-pence.
Scout. A VVatch.
Tattler. An Alarm, or Striking VVatch.
Famble. A Ring.
Porker, Tilter. A Sword.
A Rumm Nab. A good Beaver.
Rigging. Cloaths.
Blowing, Natural, Convenient, Tackle, Buttock, Pure, Purest pure. Several Names for a Mistress, or rather a VVhore.
To Equip. To furnish one.
A Bolter of VVhite-fryers. One that does but peep out of VVhite-fryers, and retire again like a Rabbit out of his hole.
To lugg out. To draw a Sword.
To Scamper, to rub, to scowre. To run away
Bowfy. Drunk.
Clear. Very Drunk.
Smoaky. Jealous.
Sharp. Subtle.
A Sharper. A Cheat.
A Tattmonger. A Cheat at Dice.
Tatt. False Dice.
The Doctor. A particular false Die, which winns but two or three Chances.
Prog. Meat.

To the Earl of Dorset and Middlesex, &c.

My Lord,

I Having had the Honour to have liv'd so many years in Your Lordships favour, and to have been always exceedingly oblig'd by Your Lordship, ought to be glad of any opportunity of Publishing my Gratitude. And the offering this Comedy to Your Lordship may not perhaps be thought an improper occasion of doing it; for the first Act of it was written at Copt-Hall; and Your Lordships Approbation of it (whose Wit and Judgment have ever been unquestion'd) encourag'd and inspir'd me to go on: When I had finish'd it, which was in a Months time, Your Lordship, upon the perusal of the whole, was pleas'd to say that you thought it a true, and diverting Comedy.

This, I must confess, made me hope for success upon the Stage, which it met with, but so great, as was above my expectation (in this Age which has run mad after Farces) no Comedy, for these many years, having fill'd the Theatre so long together: And I had the great Honour to find so many Friends, that the House was never so full since it was built, as upon the third day of this Play; and vast numbers went away, that could not be admitted.

This extraordinary success the more emboldens me to lay the Play at Your Lordships Feet; in whose service, I should be glad to employ my whole Life.

I shall not, according to the Custom of Dedications, make a long Panegyrick to Your Lordship, 'tis superflu-

The Epistle Dedicatory.

ous and impertinent, to praise him whom all men speak well of, and of whom I never heard any man speak ill : Your Lordship is the Favourite of Mankind ; and You deserve to be so, for You are ever obliging, and seeking out occasions of doing good, and exerting Your Charity and Generosity, in which you never lose a day.

I must acknowledge my self infinitely oblig'd to Your Lordship every way ; but particularly, that I have the freedom of being receiv'd as one of Your Family at Court hall ; where not only the excellence of the Air, and regularity of living contribute to my Health, but I have the Honour of enjoying the conversation which in all the World I would chuse.

It is to me, and it must needs be to all who wish Your Lordship well, an extraordinary satisfaction to observe that You have laid so certain a foundation of solid happiness, for all the remaining part of Your life ; in retiring from all the unsatisfying pleasures, and noisie troubles of the Town to so sweet a place, with so admirable a Lady, who in Beauty is exceeded by none, and has all those qualities of mind besides, which serve to make an excellent Lady, an extraordinary Governess of a Family, and an incomparable Wife ; whose fruitfulness is like to bless your Lordship with a Beauteous, Noble, and Numerous Issue. And may Your Lordship and She long enjoy one another, and all the Blessings You Your selves can imagine or desire. I am

My Lord,

Your Lordships Most Humble Servant.

THO. SHADWELL.

PROLOGUE,

To the Squire of Alsatia. Spoken by Mr. Mountfort.

HOw have we in the space of one poor Age,
Beheld the Rise and Downfal of the Stage!
When, with our King restor'd, it first arose,
They did each day some good old Play expose;
And then it flourish'd: Till, with Manna tir'd,
For wholesome Food ye nauseous Trash desir'd.
Then rose the whiffling Scribblers of those days,
Who since have liv'd to bury all their Plays;
And had their Issue full as num'rous been
As Priams, they the Fate of all had seen.

With what prodigious scarcity of Wit
Did the new Authors starve the hungry Pit?
Infected by the French, you must have Rhime,
Which long, to please the Ladies ears, did chime.
Soon after this came Ranting Fustian in,
And none but Plays upon the fret were seen:
Such Roaring Bombast stuff, which Fops would praise,
Tore our best Actors Lungs, cut short their days.
Some in small time did this distemper kill,
And had the savage Authors gone on still, }
Fustian had been a new disease itb' Bill,
When time, which all things tries, had laid Rhime dead,
The vile Usurper Farce reign'd in its stead.
Then came Machines, brought from a Neighbour Nation,
Oh how we suffer'd under Decoration!
If all this stuff has not quite spoil'd your taste,
Pray let a Comedy once more be grac'd:
Which does not Monsters represent, but men,
Conforming to the Rules of Master Ben.
Our Author, ever having him in view,
At humble distance would his steps pursue.
He to correct, and to inform did write: }
If Poets aim at nought but to delight,
Fidlers have to the Bays an equal right.

Our Poet found your gentle Fathers kind,
And now some of his works your favour find.
He'll treat you still with somewhat that is new,
But whether good or bad, he leaves to you.
Baudy the nicest Ladies need not fear,
The quickest fancy shall extract none here.
We will not make 'em blush, by which is shown
How much their bought Red differs from their own.
No Fop, no Beau shall just Exceptions make,
None but abandon'd Knaves offence shall take :
Such Knaves as he industriously offends,
And should be very loth to have his Friends.
For you who bring good humour to the Play,
We'll do our best to make you laugh to day.

Dramatis

Dramatis Personæ.

Sir William Belfond. A Gentleman of above 3000 *l. per annum*, who in his Youth had been a Spark of the Town; but married and retired into the Country, where he turned to the other extream, rigid, morose, most sordidly covetous, clownish, obstinate, positive and froward.

Sir Edward Belfond. His Brother a Merchant, who by lucky hits had gotten a great Estate, lives single with ease and pleasure, reasonably and virtuously. A man of great humanity and gentleness and compassion towards mankind; well read in good Books, possessed with all Gentlemanlike qualities.

Belfond Senior. Eldest Son to *Sir William*, bred after his Fathers Rustick, swinish manner, with great rigour and severity; upon whom his Fathers Estate is entailed; the confidence of which makes him break out into open Rebellion to his Father, and become leud abominable vicious, stubborn and obstinate.

Belfond Junior. Second Son to *Sir William*, adopted by *Sir Edw.* and bred from his Childhood by him, with all the tenderness, and familiarity, and bounty, and liberty that can be; instructed in all the Liberal Sciences, and in all Gentlemanlike Education; Somewhat given to Women, and now and then to good fellowship; but an ingenious, well-accomplish'd Gentleman; a man of Honour and of excellent disposition and temper.

His Friend, a man of Honour and Fortune.

Truman.
Mr. Bowman.
Cheatly.
Mr. Samford.

A Rascal who by reason of Debts dares not stir out of *White-fryers*, but there inveigles young Heirs in tail; and helps 'em to Goods and Money upon great disadvantages; is bound for them, and shares with them, till he undoes them. A leud, impudent debauch'd fellow, very expert in the *Cant* about the Town.

Shamwell.
Mr. Powel Jun.

Cousin to the *Belfonds*, an heir, who being ruin'd by *Cheatly*, is made a Decoy-Duck for others; not daring to stir out of *Alsaty*, where he lives; is bound with *Cheatly* for heirs, and lives upon them, a dissolute debauch'd life.

Captain

- Captain Hackum.** A Block-headed Bully of *Alfatia*; a cowardly, impudent, blustering fellow; formerly a Serjeant in *Flanders*, run from his Colours, retreating into *White-fryers* for a very small debt; where, by the *Alfatians* he is dubb'd a Captain; marries one that lets Lodgings, sells Cherry-brandy, and is a Bawd.
- Mr. Brigbr.**
- Scrapeall.** A hypocritical, repeating, praying, Psalm-singing, precise fellow, pretending to great piety, a godly Knave, who joyns with *Cheatly*, and supplies young heirs with goods and money.
- Mr. Freeman.** To Sir *William Belfond*, who solicits his business, and receives all his Packets.
- Attorney.** A North Country fellow, servant to *Belfond Senior*, much displeas'd at his Masters proceedings.
- Mr. Powell Sen.** A Sharper, Brother to Mrs. *Termagant*.
- Lolpoop.** *French Valet de Chambre.*
- Mr. Underbill.** An Indebted *Alfatian* Divine.
- Termagant.** A precise Governess to *Teresia* and *Isabella*.
- Mr. Alexander.**
- La Mar.** Daughter to *Scrapeall*, in love with, and beloved by *Truman*.
- Parson.** His Niece, in Love with, and beloved by *Belfond Junior*.
- Ruth.** The Attorneys Daughter, a young, beautiful Girl, of a mild and tender disposition; debauch'd by *Belfond Junior*.
- Mrs. Cory.** A Neglected Mistress of *Belfond Junior*, by whom he has had a Child: A furious, malicious, and revengeful Woman; perpetually plaguing him, and crossing him in all his designs; pursuing him continually with her malice, even to the attempting of his Life.
- Teresia.**
- Mrs. Knight.**
- Isabella.**
- Mrs. Mountford.**
- Lucia.**
- Mrs. Bracegirdle.**
- Mrs. Termagant.**
- Mrs. Bowtell.**
- Mrs. Hackum.** Wife to Captain *Hackum*.
- Mrs. Betty.** *Lolpoops* Whore.
- Mrs. Margaret.** His Masters Whore;

Fidlers, Constables, Tipstaff, Watch, Sergeant, &c. Musket eers, Rabble, &c.

THE Squire of Alfatia.

ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Belfond Senior, meeting Shamwel.

Belf. Sen. **C**ousin *Shamwell* well met; Good morrow to you.
Sham. Cousin *Belfond* your humble Servant: What makes you abroad so early? 'Tis not much past seven.

Belf. Sen. You know we were Bowly last night; I am a little hot-headed this morning, and come to take the fresh Air here in the Temple-walks.

Sham. Well: And what do you think of our way of living here? Is not rich generous Wine better than your poor Hedge-wine stum'd, or dull *March-Beer*? Are not delicate well-bred, well-dress'd Women better than Dairy-Maids, Tenants Daughters, or Barefoot Strumpets? Streets full of fine Coaches, better than a Yard full of Dung-Carts? A Magnificent Tavern, than a Thatcht Ale-house? Or the Society of brave honest, witty, merry Fellows, that the Conversation of unthinking Hunting, Hawking Block-heads, or high-shoo'd Peasants and their wiser Cattle?

Belf. Sen. O yes, a world adad. Ne're stir, I could never have thought there had been such a gallant place as *London*: Here I can be drunk over night, and well next morning: Can ride in a Coach for a Shilling as good as a Deputy Lieutenants, and such merry Waggs, and ingenious Companions—Well, I vow and swear, I am mightily beholding to you, Dear Cousin *Shamwell*. Then for the Women! Mercy upon us, so civil and well bred. And I'll swear upon a Bible, finer all of them than Knight Baronets Wives with us.

Sham. And so kind and pleasant!

Belf. Sen. Ay, I vow, pretty Rogues! No pride in them in the World; but so courteous and familiar, as I am an honest man they'll do whatever one would have them presently. Ah sweet Rogues; While in the Country, a pica take them, there's such a stir with pish, fy, nay Mr. *Timothy*, what do you do? I vow I'll squeak, never stir I'll call out, ah hah —

B

Sham.

Sham. And if one of them happen to be with Child, there's strait an uproar in the Country, as if the Hundred were sud for a Robbery.

Belf. Sen. Ay so there is; And I am in that fear of my Father besides adad, he'd knock me i'th Head, if he should hear of such a thing; To say truth, he's so terrible to me, I can never enjoy my self for him. Lord! What will he say when he comes to know I am at *London*? Which he in all his life-time would never suffer me to see, for fear I should be debauch'd forsooth, and allows me little or no Money at home neither.

Sham. What matter what he says? Is not every Foot of the Estate entail'd upon you?

Belf. Sen. Well, I'll endure't no longer! If I can but raise Money; I'll teach him to use his Son like a Dog, I'll warrant him.

Sham. You can ne're want that; Take up on the Reversion; 'Tis a lusty one; And *Cheatly* will help you to the Ready; And thou shalt shine and be as gay as any *Spruce Prigg*, that ever walk'd the street.

Belf. Sen. Well; adad, you are pleasant men; and have the neatest sayings with you: Ready, and *Spruce Prigg*, and abundance of the prettiest witty words. — But sure that Mr. *Cheatly* is as fine a Gentleman as any wears a Head; And as ingenious, ne'r stir I believe he would run down the best Scholar in *Oxford*, and put em in a Mouse-hole with his Wit.

Sham. In *Oxford*! Ay, and in *London* too.

Belf. Sen. Godfookers Cousin! I always thought they had been wittiest in the Universities.

Sham. O fy Cousin; A Company of *Putts*, meer *Putts*.

Belf. Sen. *Putts*, meer *Putts*; very good I'll swear, ha ha ha.

Sham. They are all Scholar Boys, and nothing else, as long as they live there: And yet they are as confident as if they knew every thing; when they understand no more beyond *Magdalen-Bridge* than meer *Indians*. But *Cheatly* is a rare fellow: I'll speak a bold word, He shall Cut a *Sham* or *Banter* with the best Wit or Poet of em all.

Belf. Sen. Good agen; Cut a *Sham* or *Banter*! I shall remember all these quaint words in time; But Mr. *Cheatly's* a Prodigy that's certain.

Sham. He is so; and a worthy brave fellow; and the best friend where he takes, and the most sincere of any man breathing.

Belf. Sen. Nay, I must needs say, I have found him very frank, and very much a Gentleman, and am most extremely obliged to him and you for your great kindness.

Sham. This morning your Clothes and Liveries will come home, and thou shalt appear rich and splendid like thy self, and the *Mobile* shall worship thee.

Belf. Sen. The *Mobile*! That's pretty.

Enter Cheatly.

Sweet Mr. *Cheatly*, my best friend, let me embrace thee.

Cheat. My sprightly Son of Timber and of Acres; My noble Heir I salute thee: The *Cole* is coming, and shall be brought in this morning.

Belf. Sen. Cole? Why 'tis Summer, I need no firing now. Besides, I intend to burn Billets.

Cheat. My lusty Rustick, learn and be instructed. *Cole* is in the language of the

the Witty, Money. The *Ready*, the *Rhino*; thou shalt be *Rhinocerical*, my Lad thou shalt.

Belf. Sen. Admirable I swear! *Cole*, *Ready*, *Rhino*, *Rhinocerical*, Lord, how long may a man live in Ignorance in the Country!

Sham. Ay: But what Asses you'll make of the Country Gentlemen when you go amongst them, 'Tis a Providence you are falln into so good hands.

Belf. Sen. 'Tis a mercy indeed. How much *Cole*, *Ready*, and *Rhino* shall I have?

Cheat. Enough to set thee up to Spark it in thy Brothers face: And e're thou shalt want the *Ready*, the *Darby*, thou shalt make thy fruitful Acres in Reverfion to fly, And all thy sturdy Oaks to bend like Switches! But thou must squeeze my Lad: Squeeze hard, and Seal my *Bully*. *Shamuel* and I are to be bound with thee.

Belf. Sen. I am mightily beholding to you both I vow and swear; my Uncle Sir *Edward* took my Brother when he was a Child, and Adopted him; would it had been my Lot.

Sham. He is a Noble Gentleman, and maintains him in Coach and Equipage fit for him.

Cheat. Thou shalt not see the *Prigg* thy Brother till thou shalt out-jingle him in *Ready*, out-shine him in thy Ornaments of Body, out-spark him in thy Coach and Liveries; and shalt be so *Equipt*, that thou shalt dazle the whole Town with thy Outragious Splendor.

Belf. Sen. I vow his Tongue is rarely hung!

Cheat. Thy Brothers heart shall break with Envy at thy Gallantry: The Fops and Beaux shall be astonisht at thy brightness. What *Ogling* there will be between thee and the *Blowings*: Old staring at thy *Equipage*. And every *Buttock* shall fall down before thee.

Belf. Sen. Ha ha ha! I vow you are the pleasantst man I ever met with, and I'll swear the best friend I ever had in my life; that I must needs say. I was resolved not to let my Brother see me till I was in Circumstances dee see! And for my Father he is in *Holland*. My Mothers Brother dyed and left him sole Executor. He'll not be here this six Weeks.

Sham. Well, when you see your Brother he'll envy you, and rail at those who made you flourish so. We shall be cast off.

Belf. Sen. Godfookers Cousin! I take it very unkindly that you should say so. I'll cast off all the Relations in the World before I'll part with such true, such loving Friends, adad.

Enter Captain Hackum. O noble Captain *Hackum*, your Servant; Servant Captain.

Hack. Your humble *Trout*, good noble Squire, you were brave and *bonsse* last night; I'faith you were.

Belf. Sen. Yes really, I was *Clear*: For I do not remember what I did, or where I was: *Clear*, *Clear*; is not that right?

Sham. Ay ay: Why, you broke Windows; *scour'd*, broke open a House in *Dorset* Court, and took a pretty Wench, a Gentlemans *Natural* away by force.

Cheat. Very true: And this Magnanimous Spark, This Thunder-bolt of VVar Captain *Hackum*, laid about him like a Hero, as did some other of your friends, or else the VWatch had maul'd us: But we made them *scoure*.

Belf. Sen. Nay o'my Conscience, the Captain's mighty valiant ; there's Terror in that Countenance and Whiskers ; He's a very *Scanderberg* incarnate. And now you put me in mind, I recollect somewhat of this matter : My Shoulders are plaguy sore, and my Arms back and blue ; but where's the Wench, the *Natural*, ha Captain ?

Hack. Ah Squire, I led her off. I have her safe for you.

Belf. Sen. But does not the Gallant thunder and roar for her.

Hack. The Scoundrel dares not : He knows me, who never knew fear in my life ; for my part I love Magnanimity and Honour, and those things ; and fighting is one of my Recreations.

He that wears a brave Soul, and dares honestly do,
Is a Herald to himself, and a Godfather too.

Belf. Sen. O brave Captain.

Cheat. The *Prigster* lugg'd out in defence of his *Natural* ; the Captain whipt his *Porker* out, and away rubb'd *Prigster* and call'd the Watch.

Belf. Sen. *Prigster*, lugg'd out, *Natural*, *Porker*, rubb'd, admirable ! This is very ingenious Conversation : Yare the purest Company ; who would not keep Company with the Wits ; Pox o' the Country I say.

Hack. But Squire I had damn'd ill luck afterwards : I went up to the Gaming-Ordinary, and lost all my *Ready* ; they left me not a *Rag* or *Sock* : Pox o' the *Tatts* for me : I believe they put the *Doctor* upon me.

Belf. Sen. *Tatts*, and *Doctor* ! what's that ?

Sham. The Tools of *Sharpers*, false Dice.

Hack. Hark you, prithee Noble Squire, *Equipp* me with a Couple of *Meggs*, or two Couple of *Smelts*.

Belf. Sen. *Smelts* ! What shall we bespeak another Dish of Fish for our Dinner ?

Sham. No, no, *Meggs* are Guineas, *Smelts* are Half Guineas : He would borrow a Couple of Guineas.

Belf. Sen. *Meggs*, *Smelts* ! Ha ha ha. Very pretty by my troth. And so thou shalt, Dear Captain : There are two *Meggs* ; and I vow and swear I am glad I have em to pleasure you, adad I am.

Hack. You are so honest a Gentleman, Quarrel every day and I'll be your Second ; once a day at least : And I'll say this for you, There's not a finer Gentleman this day walks the *Fryars* ; no dispraise to any Man let him be what he will.

Belf. Sen. Adad you make me proud, Sir.

Enter Lolpoop.

O *Lolpoop*, where have you been all this Morning, Sirrah ?

Lolp. Why 'tis but rear marry, 'tis meet a bit past Eight : By'r Lady yeow were io fow drunken last neeght I had thoughten yeow wouden ha leen a Bed aw th morn : Well, mine eyne ake a gaizing up and down on aw the fine fights ; but for aw that send me North to my own Caunty again.

Belf. Sen. Oh silly Rogue : You are only fit for Catle. Gentleman, you must excuse him, he knows no better.

Lolp. Marry, better, quoth a! By th'Mess, this is a life for the Deel: To be drunken each night, break Windows, Roar, Sing and Swear i'th Streets; go to Loggerheads with the Constable and the Watch, han Harlots in Gold and Silver Lace: Hea'n bless us, and send me a whome again.

Belf. Sen. Peace, you sawcy Scoundrel, or I'll Cudgel you to Pap: Sirrah do not provoke me, I say do not.

Lolp. Ods-flesh, where's Money for aw this? Yeowst be run agraunt soon and you takken this cause, lfe tell a that.

Belf. Sen. Take that Sirrah: I'll teach you to mutter: What my Man become my Master?

Lolp. Waunds! Give me ten times more, and send me a whome agen at after. What will awd Maaster say to this? I mun ne'r see the Face of him I wot.

Sham. Hang him Rogue. Toss him in a Blanket.

Cheat. Let me talk with him a little. Come on Fellow.

Lolp. Talk! Well, what sen you?

Cheatly bantering. Your Master being in this matter, to deport his Count'nance somewhat obliquely, to some principles, which others but out of a Mature Gravity may have weigh'd, and think too heavy to be undertaken; what does it avail you if you shall precipitate or plunge your self into affairs, as unsuitable to your Physnomy as they are to your Complexion.

Lolp. Hah, what sen yeow? Yeow mistaken me: I am not Book-learn'd. I understand a not:

Cheat. No, 'tis the strangest thing: Why, put the Case you are indebted to me 20*l.* upon a *Scire facias*: I extend this up to an Outlawry, upon Affidavit upon the *Nisi Prius*: I plead to all this matter *Non est inventus* upon the Pannel; what is there to be done more in this Case, as it lies before the Bench, but to award out Execution upon the *Posse Comitatus*, who are presently to issue out a *Certiorari*.

Lolp. I understand a little of Sizes, *Nisi prizes*, Affidavi, *Suffurari*! But by the Mess I cannot tell what to mack of aw this together not I.

Belf. Sen. Ha ha. Puppy! Owl! Loggerhead! O silly Country *Put*! Here's a Prigg indeed: He'll ne'er find out what 'tis to *Cut a Sham* or *Banter*: Well, I swear Sir, you do it the best of any Man in the World.

Cheat. No, no, I swear not I.

Belf. Sen. I protest you do it incomparably.

Cheat. Nay, now you Complement. Faith you make me blush.

Lolp. Sham and Banter are Heathen Greek to me: But yeow have cut-out, fine wark for your sel last Neeght; I went to see the House yeow had-Brocken, aw the Windows are pood dawne. I askt what was the matter, and by the Mass they haw learnt you Nam too; they saiden Squire *Belfond* had done it, and Ravish'd a Wench: and that they hadden gotten the Lord Chief Justice Warren for you, and wooden bring a pawr of Actions against yeow.

Belf. Sen. Is this true?

Lolp. Ay by th' Mass.

Cheat. No matter; we'll bring you off with a wet finger; trust me for that.

Belf. Sen. Dear Friend, I rely upon you for every thing.

Sham.

Sham. VVe value not twenty such things of a rush,

Hack. If any of their officers dare invade our Priviledges, we'll send 'em to Hell without *Bail* or *Mainprize*.

Lolp. But I can tell a wor news than aw this; I ne'r saw flesh alive, and I saw not your Fathers Man *Roger* come out o'th *Temple-gate* e'en now. Your Father's in Town that's certain.

Belf. Sen. How! my Father say you? 'Tis impossible.

Cheat. Courage my Heir in Tail: Thy Father's a poor sneaking Tenant for Life; thou shalt live better than he can: And if we do contract a Debt upon the dirty Acres in the North, I have design'd for you a fine young Lady with a twinging Fortune to redeem all; and 'tis impossible my Lad to miss her.

Belf. Sen. Sir, let me embrace you, and love you: Never Man embrac'd a better Friend! *Amicus Certus in re incerta Cernitur*, as the saying is.

Lolp. Sir, Sir, let me speak one word with yeow; Ods-flesh, I'll die the Death of a Dog, and aw these yeow seen here, be not Rogues, Cheats and Pick-pockets.

Belf. Sen. Peace, you Rascal; Adad I would not have any of 'em hear for five hundred Pounds; you were a dead Man.

Lolp. VVhat is the reason they dare not stir out of this priviledg'd place, but on Sabbath-days.

Belf. Sen. You Blockhead, Mr. *Cheatly* had an Aldermans young VVife run away with him, is Sued for't, and is in fear of a substantial Jury of City Cuckolds. *Shamwell's* unnatural Father lays wait for him, to apprehend him and run him into the Country. The Brave and Valiant Gentleman, Captain *Hackum*, who is as stout as a Lyon, beat a Judges Son t'other day. And now your Questions are fully answer'd, you *Put* you.

Cheat. Honest *Shamwell*, thou art a rare fellow: Thy Cozen here is the weal-thiest *Caravan* we have met with a long time; the hopefullest *Sealer* that ever yet toucht VVax among us: But we must take off that evil Counsellor of his.

Enter Tailor with a Bundle, a Peruke-maker, Hatter, Shooe-maker.

Sham. I warrant you. Oh Cousin, here's your Tailor, with your Clothes and Liveries, Hatter, Shooe-maker, Peruke-maker.

Cheat. All your Moveables together; go into your Lodging and fit them: Your new Footmen, and your *French Valet de Chambre* are there, I'll wait on you there presently.

Lolp. Ods-flesh, here's whaint wark: By'r Lady this is fine! VVhaw, VVhaw!

Belf. Sen. Get you, in you Rogue: An you mutter one word more, adad I'll mince you, Sirrah: VVell, go in all of you. Gentlemen, I shall see you presently.

Exit.

Cheat. Immediately: Let us hug our selves, my dear Rascal, in this adventure, you have done very well to engage him last night in an Out-rage; and we must take care to put him upon all the expence we can: VVe must reduce him to have as much need of us as possible.

Sham. Thou art i'th right: But Captain, where's the *Convenient*, the *Natural*?

Hack. VVhy at my House; my VVife has wrought her into a good humour: She is very pretty: and is now pleas'd to think the Squire will be a better Keeper than

than her former : for he was but a *Sbarper*, a *Tatmonger*, and when he wanted Money would kick and beat her most immoderately.

Sham. VVell : I'll say that for the Captains *VVife*, she's as good an able discreet *VVoman* to carry on an Intrigue, as e're a *VVoman* in the *Fryars* ! Nay, better.

Hack, Your Servant good Mr. *Shamwell*; she's a very good *VVoman* thanks be to Heaven, I have great comfort in her; she has a Cup of the best Cherry-brandy in the *Fryars*.

Sham. aside, And commonly a good *VVhore* to boot : But prethee Captain, go home, and let her and the young *Girl* prepare to Dine with us; we must have a great Dinner, and Fiddlers at the *George*, to season the Squire in his new Equipage.

Hack, Well, well, it shall be done.

Exit.

Sham, You'll find this Fellow a necessary Tool in consort with his *VVife*, who is, indeed, a Bawd of parts : He is a good Russian enough : For tho he be not stout, he's impudent, and will roar and keep a filthy pother, which is enough to make fools believe he's stout.

Cheat, Let him, and the small Fry pick up the Squires loose Crums, *VVhile* we share in the lusty Sums.

Enter Scrapeall.

Oh here comes Mr. *Scrapeall* with all his Zeal; our godly Accomplice in all designs; leave him to me.

Ex. Sham.

Oh Mr. *Scrapeall*! Have you brought the Money for the Squire?

Scrap, I come to tell you that my Man approacheth with the Money and the Goods for your Squire.

Cheat, I hope you have not burden'd him with to many Goods at first?

Scrap, No: But a fourth part: 'Tis true, the Goods are somewhat stale, but I will take them off at small under Rates: You know I am not seen in furnishing of the Goods and Money, but only in the buying of the Goods, My Lawyer accompanieth my Man to testify the *VVritings*.

Cheat, 'Tis as it should be: He is a fat squire; the Estate in Tail, is full 3000 *l.* a year. He will yield well.

Scrap. aside, This Squire is to take to *VVife* a Niece I have in Charge: His Father is to give me 5000 *l.* out of her Fortune, and the Squires Leudness and Prodigality will soon let me deep into his Reversion. Besides, his lighting into these hands, will make his Father, when he finds it, hasten to agree with me for his Redemption; I like the business well. I am going to the Man you call *Crump*, who helpeth Solicitors to Affidavit men, and Swearers, and Bail.

Cheat, His Office is next door; his *VVardrobe* for Bail and *VVitnelles*. Here he comes; let's meet him.

Exeunt.

Enter Sir William Belfond, and an Attorney.

Sir, *Will*, Sure I should know the Face of that Fellow, that's going there into *White Fryars*.

Att. 'Tis a most Notorious one; you have seen him often, this that most audacious Rogue, *Cheatly*; who has drawn in so many young Heirs, and undone so many Sealers: He is a Bolter of *White Fryers*.

Sir.

Sir Will. It is that Villain!

Att. I am very glad Sir, you have dispatcht your business so soon in *Holland*.

Sir Will. I had great success, and finished all six Weeks at least e're I expected; and had time to come by the way of *Flanders*, and see that Country which I desired: And from *Newport* I came to *Dover*; and riding Post from thence, I took a Boat at *Southwark*, and landed just now here at the Temple: But I am troubled you had sent my Packet to *Holland* e'er I came.

Att. I receiv'd none from you of late: No Packet has arriv'd this Fortnight from *Holland*.

Sir Will. Have you heard no News from my Son, nor my Steward in the Country?

Att. None this ten or twelve days.

Sir Will. That Son is all the Joy of my Life; for him I hurry up and down, take pains, spare, and live hard to raise his Fortune.

Att. Indeed, I hear he's a fine Gentleman, and understands his Country affairs as well as e'er a Farmer of them all.

Sir Will. I must confess he proves after my own Heart: He's a solid young man, a Dutiful Child as ever man had, and I think I have done well for him in providing him a Wife with such a Fortune, which he yet knows nothing of. But will not this Godly Man, this Mr. *Scrapeall*, take a Farthing less say you for his Niece?

Att. Not a Sowse: I have higgled with him as if I were to buy of a Horse-courser, and he will not take a Farthing less than 5000*l.* for his Niece.

Sir Will. He's a strange Mixture, a perpetual Sermon-hunter, repeats and sings Psalms continually, and prays so loud and vehemently, that he is a Disturbance to his Neighbours; he is so Heavenward Pious, and seems a very Saint of a Scrivener.

Att. He finds the sweet of that, it gets him many a good Trust and Executionship.

Sir Will. Pox on him for a Damned Godly Knave, forsooth, cannot he be contented to sell her, whom his own Brother committed to his Charge; but he must extort so much for her? Well I must agree with him: I know she has full 20000*l.* left her: And has been brought up as strictly as my Son: Get Writings ready: I'll send Post for my Son *Timothy* to day.

Att. They are ready; you may Seal in the Afternoon if you please.

Sir Will. And I will then. I'll detain you no longer: Get my Writings ready: I am resolv'd to settle my other Boy well; But my Town Son afflicts me when e'er I hear him nam'd.

Attor. You humble Servant Sir Will. *Belfond*.

Ex. Attor.

Enter Servant to Sir William.

Serv. Sir, I have been at your brother's House, and they say he is come to some Lawyers Chamber in the *Kings-Bench* buildings.

Sir Will. That's lucky enough: I'll walk here then, and do you watch.

Enter Hackum, and another Bully.

Who are these? Some Inhabitants of *White-Fryars*; some Bullies of *Alsatia*.

Hack. I was plaguy Bowsy last Night with Squire *Belfond*; We had Fiddles, Whores,

Whores, Scour'd, broke Windows, beat Watches, and roar'd like Thunder.

Bully. Ah, I heard you?

aside.

Sir Will. What says he?

Hack. He Drinks, Whores, Swears, Sings, Roars, Rants, and Scours with the best of us.

Sir Will. Sir, with your favour, are you acquainted with young *Belfond*?

Hack. Yes, that I am. What Country *Put*'s this?

aside.

Sir Will. What Country-man is he Sir?

Hack. Prithee, old *Prigster*, why dost ask? He is a Northern Man: He has a damn'd Rustick, miserable Rascal to his Father, who lives a nasty brutal life in the Country like a Swine: But the Squire will be even with him, I warrant him.

Sir Will. I have something to say to him if I could see him

Hack. You, you old *Prigg*, you damn'd Country *Put*: You have somewhat to say to him! I am ready to give you satisfaction: *Lugg out*; come you *Put*: I'll make you *Scamper*.

Sir Will. Dee hear *Bully Rascal*, put up and walk your way, or by Heaven I'll beat you as long as your are able to be beaten.

Bully. I'll stand by you: You may easily beat this old Fellow.

Hack. No man e're gave me such words but forfeited his life; I could whip thee through the Lungs immediately; but I'll desist at present. VVho the Devil would have thought this *Putt* durst have drawn a Sword? Well Sir, we shall take a time Sir, another time Sir.

Sir Will. You lye, you Rascal; you will take no time.

Here's a fine Companion of my Sons.

Exit Bully.

Enter Sir Edward Belfond.

Sir Edw. Who's this I see? my Brother! *Sir William Belfond*! Your humble Servant. You are welcome into England. I look'd not for you these six weeks.

Sir Will. I landed at the Temple-stairs even now: My man has been at your House, and he heard there you were here.

Sir Edw. I hope you have done your business.

Sir Will. Beyond my Expectation.

Sir Edw. Has your Wives Brother done by you in his Will, as you would have had him.

Sir Will. Truly yes: He has made me sole Executor, and left my two Sons 5000*l.* a piece, to be paid at each of their day of Marriage, or at my Death.

Sir Edw. Well Brother, you are a happy man; for Wealth flows in upon you on every side, and Riches you account the greatest happiness.

Sir Will. I find that wealth alone will not make happy. Ah Brother, I must confess it was a kindness in you, when Heaven had blest you with a great Estate by Merchandize, to adopt my Younger Son, and take him and breed him from his Childhood: But you have been so gentle to him, he is run into all manner of Vice and Riot; no bounds can hold him; no shame can stop him; no Laws nor Customs can restrain him.

Sir Edw. I am confident you are mistaken; He has as fair a Reputation as any Gentleman about London: 'Tis true, he's a good fellow, but no Sot; he loves mirth and society, without Drunkenness: He is, as all young Fellows I
C believe

believe are, given to Women, but it is in private ; and he is particular. No Common Whore-master : and in short, keeps as good Company as any man in *England*.

Sir Will. Your over-weening makes you look through a false Glass upon him. Company ! why he keeps Company for the Devil : Had you come a minute sooner, you might have seen two of his Companions ; they were praising him for Roaring, Swearing, Ranting, Scouring, Whoring, beating Watches, breaking Windows . I but ask'd one of 'em if he knew him, and said I had somewhat to say to him ; the Rogue, the most seeming terrible of the two, told me, if I had any thing to say to Squire *Belford*, he would give me satisfaction.

Sir Edw. What kind of fellow ?

Sir Will. He came out of *White-Friers* : He's some *Alsatian Bully*.

Sir Edw. 'Tis impossible ; he never keeps such Company.

Sir Will. The Rogue drew upon me : bid me *Lugg out*, called me *Old Prigg*, *Country Putt* ; and spoke a particular Language which such Rogues have made to themselves, called Canting, as Beggars, Gipsies, Thieves and Jayl-Birds do ; but I made his Bullies go away very tamely at the sight of my drawn Sword.

Sir Edw. I am sure he keeps no such Company ; it must be some other of his Name.

Sir Will. You make me mad to excuse him thus, the Town rings of him ; you have ruined him by your Indulgence ; besides, he throws away Money like dirt : his Infamy is notorious.

Sir Edw. Infamy : Nay there you wrong him ; he does no ungentleman-like things : Prithee consider Youth a little : What if he does Wench a little ; and now and then is somewhat extravagant in Wine ? Where is the great Crime : All young fellows that have mettle in them will do the first ; and if they have wit and good humour in them, in this drinking Country, they will sometimes be forc'd upon the latter ; and he must be a very dull Phlegmatick Lump, whom Wine will not elevate to some Extravagance now and then.

Sir Will. Will you distract me ? What are Drinking and Whoring no faults ? His courses will break my heart ; they bring Tears into my Eyes so often.

Sir Edw. One would think you had been Drinking and were maudling ; think what we our selves did when we were young fellows ; You were a Spark, would Drink, Scour and Wench with the best o'th' Town.

Sir Will. Ay, but I soon repented, married and settled.

Sir Edw. And turn'd as much to the other extreme ; and now perhaps I mislike these faults, caus'd by his heat of Youth. But how do you know he may not be reclaim'd suddenly.

Sir Will. Reclaim'd ? How can he be reclaim'd without severity ? You should cudgel him, and allow him no Money ; make him not dare to offend you thus. Well, I have a Son whom by my strictness I have form'd according to my heart ; He never puts on his Hat in my presence ; Rises at second Course, takes away his Plate, says Grace, and saves me the Charge of a Chaplain. When ever he committed a fault, I mau'd him with Correction ; I'd fain see him once dare to be extravagant ; No, he's a good Youth, the Comfort of my Age ; I weep for joy to think of him. Good Sir, learn to be a Father of him that is one ; I have a Natural Care of him you have Adopted.

Sir

Sir Edw. You are his Father by Nature, I by Choice ; I took him when he was a Child, and bred him with gentleness, and that kind of Conversation that has made him my friend ; He conceals nothing from me, or denies nothing to me. Rigour makes nothing but Hypocrites.

Sir Will. Perhaps when you begin late ; but you should have been severe to him in his Childhood ; abridg'd him of Liberty and Money ; and have had him soundly whipp'd often ; he would have blest you for it afterwards.

Sir Edw. Too much straightness to the minds of Youths, like too much lacing to the Body, will make them grow Crooked.

Sir Will. but no lacing at all, will make them swell and grow Monstrous.

Sir Edw. I must govern my Love. I had as leave govern a Dog as a Man if it must be by fear ; this I take to be the difference between a good Father to Children, and a harsh Master over Slaves.

Sir Will. Yes, and see what your Government is come to ; his Vice and Prodigality will distract me.

Sir Edw. Why should you be so concern'd ? He is mine, is he not ?

Sir Will. Yes, by Adoption, but he is mine by Nature.

Sir Edw. 'Tis all but Custom.

Sir Will. Mine is a tender Care.

Sir Edw. Your passion blinds you : I have as tender care as you can have ; I have been ever delighted with him from his Childhood ; he is endear'd to me by long custom and familiarity. I have had all the pleasure of a Father, without the drudgery of getting a Son upon a damn'd Wife, whom perhaps I should wish hang'd.

Sir Will. And will you let him run on in his Lewdness and Prodigality ?

Sir Edw. He is mine ; if he offends, 'tis me ; if he squanders away Money, 'tis mine ; and what need you care ? Pray take care of your own ; if you will take care of this too, what do you do but take him from me ?

Sir Will. This you come to always ! I take him from you ; no, I'd not be troubled with him. Well, let him run on, and be ruin'd, hang'd and damn'd. I'll never speak word more about him. Let him go on.

Sir Edw. This heat of Youth will be allay'd ere long I warrant you.

Sir Will. No, no, let him go on, let him go on ; I'll take care of my own at home ; and happy were this Rake-hell if he would take Example by his Brother ; but I say no more ; I have done ; let him go on.

Sir Edw. Now you are angry, your Passion runs away with you.

Sir Will. No no, I have done ; what would you have more ?

Sir Edw. Let us go and see him : I'll lay my life you'll find him perusing some good Author ; he ever spends his whole morning in study.

Sir Will. I must into the City, the first thing I do, and get my Bills accepted and then if you will we'll see him : and no doubt but we shall find him perusing of some Whore or other, instead of a Book.

Sir Edw. I am not of your Opinion ; but I'll carry you in my Coach into the City, and then bring you back to him : He is of so good a disposition : So much a Gentleman : And has such worth and honour, that if you knew him as well as I, you'd love him as well as I do.

Sir Will. VVell, well, I hear you Sir : I must fend for my Son Post : I'll shew you a Son. VVell, Heaven blefs him, I should be weary of this wicked world, but for the Comforts I find in him : Come along, I'll shew you a Son. *Ex. ambo.*

ACT II. SCENE I.

Enter Belfond Junior, and Lucia.

Belf. Jun. **W**HY dost thou sigh ? and show such sadness in thy Looks ?
My pretty Miss.

Luc. Have I not reason ?

Belf. Jun. Dost thou dislike thy entertainment ?

Lucia. Ah cruel *Belfond* thou hast undone me.

Belf. Jun. My pretty little Rogue, I sooner would undo my self a thousand times.

Luc. How I tremble to think what I ha done ! I have made my self for ever miserable.

Belf. Jun. Oh say not so, dear Child : I'll kiss those tears from off thy Beautiful Eyes. But I shall wrong thy Cheeks, on which they fall like precious drops of dew on flowers.

Luc. Heaven ! What have I done ?

Belf. Jun. No more than what thy Mother did before thee : No more than thy whole Sex is born to do.

Luc. Oh had I thought you would have been so Cruel, I never would have seen your Face ; I swear I would not.

Belf. Jun. I swear thou would'st, I know thou would'st : Cruel ! no Billing Turtle e'er was kinder to his tender Mate ; in Billing, Cooing, and in gentle Murmurs, we express our kindness ; and Coo'd and Murmur'd and Lov'd on.

Luc. The more unhappy Fool was I : Go, go, I hate you now.

Belf. Jun. Oh my sweet little one ; thou canst not sure be so unkind : Those pretty Tell-tales of thy Heart, thy Eyes, say better things.

Luc. Do they so ? I'll be reveng'd on em for't : For they shall never see you more.

Belf. Jun. Ah say not so ; I had rather much the Sun should never shine on me, than thou be hidden from my sight : Thou art not sure in earnest ?

Luc. Yes sure, I think I am.

Belf. Jun. No, my sweet Love, I think thou art not.

Luc. Oh Lord, how shall I look ? How shall I bear my self ! if any of my Friends shall fix their Eyes upon me, I shall look down and blush, and think they know all.

Belf. Jun. How many fair ones daily do the same, and look demurely as any Saints ?

Luc.

Luc. They are Confident things I warrant em.

Belf. Jun. Let Love be made familiar to thee, and thou wilt bear it better : Thou must see me every day. Canst thou be so hard-hearted to forbear the sight of me ?

Luc. Perhaps I may desire now and then a look, a sight of thee at some distance : But I will never venture to come near thee more, I vow.

Belf. Jun. Let me kiss that Vow from off thy Lips, while 'tis warm there : I have it here : 'Tis gone. Thou wilt not kill me sure ? Didst thou not say thou lov'dst me ?

Luc. Yes, I lov'd too much ; or this had never happen'd : I could not else have been undone.

Belf. Jun. Undone ; thou art made : VWoman is but half a Creature, till she be joyn'd to Man ; now thou art whole and perfect.

Luc. VVicked man ! Can I be so confident once to come near thee more ?

Belf. Jun. Shouldst thou but fail one day, I never should survive it ; and then my Ghost will haunt thee. Canst thou look on me, pretty Creature, and talk thus ?

Luc. VVell, gothy ways ; that Flattering Tongue, and those Bewitching Eyes were made to ruine womankind.

Belf. Jun. Could I but think thou wert in earnest, these Arms should clasp thee ever here : I'd never part with thee.

Luc. No, no, now I must gone ; I shall be mist : How shall I get home and not be known ? Sure every Body will discover me ?

Belf. Jun. Thy Mask will cover all : There is a Chair below in the Entry to carry thee, and set thee down where thou wilt.

Luc. Farewel, Dear Cruel man ! And must I come to morrow morning say you ? No, no.

Belf. Jun. Yes, yes ; to morrow and to morrow, and every morning of our Lives ; I die else.

Enter Foot-boy.

Foot. Sir, - your Singing Master is coming.

Belf. Jun. My Singing-Master, Mr. Soffa is coming.

Luc. O Lord hide me ! He is my Master, he'll know me ! I shall not be able to go by him for trembling.

Belf. Jun. Pretty Miss into the Closet : I'll dispatch him soon.

Goes in.

Enter Singing-Master, and his Daughter.

Come Master, let your Daughter sing the Song you promis'd me.

Soffa. Come Betty. Please to put in a Flute, Sir.

Belf. Jun. Come on.

Song with two Flutes, and a thorough Bass.

The Expostulation.

*Still wilt thou sigh, and still in vain
A cold neglectful Nymph adore;
No longer fruitlessly complain,
But to thy self thy self restore.
In Touth thou caught'st this foud disease,
And shouldst abandon it in age;
Some other Nymph as well may please,
Absence or bus'ness disingage.*

*Ontender bears the wound's of Love,
Like those imprinted on young Trees,
Or kill at first, or else they prove
Larger b' insensible degrees.
Bus'ness I try'd, she fill'd my mind;
On other Lips my Dear I kist;
But never solid Joy could find,
Where I my charming Sylvia mist.*

*Long Absent, like a Greenland night,
Made me but wish for Sun the more;
And that inimitable light,
She, none but she, could e're restore.
She never once regards thy Fire,
Nor ever vents one sigh for thee.
I must the glorious Sun admire,
Though he can never look on me.*

*Look well, you'll find she's not so rare,
Much of her former Beauty's gone;
My Love her Shadow larger far
Is made by her declining Sun.
What if her Glories faded be,
My former wounds I must indure:
For should the Bow unbended be,
Yet that can never help the Cure.*

Belf. Jun. 'Tis very easie and natural: Your Daughter sings delicately.

Enter Truman.

Tru. Belfond, good morrow to thee; I see thou still tak'st care to melt away thy hours in soft delights.

Belfond Jun. Honest *Truman*! All the pleasures and diversions we can invent, are little enough to make the Farce of Life go down;

Tru.

Tru. And yet what a coil they keep: How busie and industrious are those who are reckon'd grave and wise, about this Life, as if there were something in it.

Belf. Jun. Those Fools are in earnest, and very solid; they think there's something in't, while Wise men know there's nothing to be done here but to make the best of a bad Marker.

Tru. You are mighty Philosophical this morning. But shall I not hear one Song as well as you?

Belf. Jun. Have you set that Ode in *Horace*?

Solfa. I have.

Belf. Jun. Then I hope you will be encourag'd to set more of them; we then shall we be sure of Wit and Musick together; while you great Musicians do often take most pains about the silliest words. Prithce *Truman* sing it.

Tru. sings, *Integer vitæ Scelerisque purus*, &c. *Hor. Ode 22. l. 1.*

Belf. Jun. Very well; you have oblig'd me: Please to accept of this. And Madam, you shall give me leave to shew my gratitude by a small Present.

Solfa and Daughtr. Your Servant Sir.

Exeunt.

Tru. You are so immoderately given to Music, methinks it should jumble Love out of your thoughts.

Belf. Jun. Oh no! Remember *Shakespear*; If Music be the Food of Love, Play on—There's nothing nourishes that soft passion like it, it imparts his Wings, and makes him fly a higher pitch. But prithce tell me what news of our dear Mistress? I was never yet so sincerely in Love as with my pretty Hypocrite; There is a fite in those Eyes that strikes like Lightning: What a constant Church-man she has made of me.

Tru. And mine has made an entire Conquest of me: 'Tis the most charming pretty Creature, that e're my Eyes beheld.

Belf. Jun. Let us not fall out, like the Heroes in the Rehearsal, for not being in Love with the same woman.

Tru. Nothing could be so fortunate as our difference in this case: The only one we disagree in.

Belf. Jun. Thou art in the right: Mine hath so charm'd me, I am content to abandon all other pleasures, and live alone for her; she has subdu'd me even to Marriage.

Tru. Mine has no less vanquish'd me; I'll render upon discretion. Ah Rogue *Belfond*, I see by your bed, for all your Constant Love, you have had a VVench this night.

Belf. Jun. Peace peace, man: 'Tis dangerous to fast too long for fear of losing an appetite quite.

Tru. You are a sincere honest Lover indeed.

Belf. Jun. Faith *Truman*, we may Talk of mighty matters; of our Honesty and Morality; but a young Fellow carries that about him that will make him a Knave now and then in spite of his Teeth. Besides, I am afraid 'tis impossible for us prophane fellows to succeed into that Sanctify'd Family.

Tru. You will not say so, when you know what progress I have made in our affairs already.

Belf.

Belf. Jun. Thou reviv'st my drooping hopes: Tell me, are we like to succeed? Oh if I can but prevail upon my little pretty Churchwoman, I am resolv'd to conform to her for ever.

Tru. Look under my Coat! Am I not well habited? with a plain Band, Bob Peruke, and no Cuffs.

Belf. Jun. Verily, like one of the pure ones

Tru. Yea; and our frequenting of Sermons and Lectures, (which Heaven knows we did out of no good, but for the sake of the little ones) has us'd me to their stile: Thus qualify'd, I got access into the House, having found that their Governante is Sister to a Weaver in the west, whom I know, I pretended to be her Cousin, and to bring a Token sent to her by her Brother, and was very Welcom to her.

Belf. Jun. Most fortunate: Why does he keep 'em so strictly? Never to see the face of Man?

Tru. Be not troubled at that, 'twill forward our design; they'll be the more earnest to be deliver'd. But no *Italian* women are so closely confin'd; the pure Knave intends to sell them; Even his Daughter, who has a good Fortune left her by a VVidow, that was her Aunt: And for his Niece, he has as good as agreed already with your Father for 5000*l.* to marry her to your Brother in the Country: Her Uncle gave her 20000*l.* and this is the reason of confining 'em; for fear of losing the Money.

Belf. Jun. VVith my Father say you?

Tru. Most certain: This I learnt out of Madam Governante, at the first interview.

Belf. Jun. This is a very odd Accident: 'Twill make my difficulty greater.

Tru. Not at all; As Lyes are always readiest to believe Lyes, I never knew an Hypocrite but might easily be cozen'd by another Hypocrite. I have made my way, and I warrant thee a good event. I intend to grow great with the Father.

Belf. Jun. Thy Sanguine temper makes thee always hope in every Enterprize.

Tru. You might observe, whenever he star'd upon them, they would steal a look at us; and by stealth have often twisted Eye-beams with us.

Belf. Jun. The sowe and devout look indeed seems but put on; There is a pretty warmth and tenderness in their Eyes, that now and then glides o're the godly look; like the Suns light, when breaking through a Cloud, it swiftly glides upon a Field of Corn.

Tru. The Air of their Faces plainly show they have Wit, that must despise those trifling forms; their precise looks most surely are constrain'd.

Enter Mrs. Termagant.

Belf. Jun. How, Madam Termagant here! then we shall have fine work. VVhat wind blows you hither.

Term. How dare you think that I of all womenkind should be us'd thus?

Belf. Jun. You mean not us'd; that's your Grievance.

Term. Good Mr. Disdain; I shall spoil your scoffing; Has my Love deserv'd to be thus slighted? I that have refus'd Princes for your sake? Did not all the Town court me? And must I choose such an ungrateful Wretch,

Belf.

Belf. Jun. When you were first in season, you were a little courted by some of Quality: Mistresses, like Green Pease, at first coming are only had by the Rich, but afterwards they come to every body.

Term. Curse on your sawcy families: Was not I yours, and only yours.

Belf. Jun. I had not faith enough for that; but if you were, I never had any that was mine and only mine, but I made 'em all mankinds before I had done.

Term. Ah Traytor! And you must pick me out to make this base Example of: Must I be left?

Belf. Jun. Left! Yes sure, Left! Why you were not marry'd to me: I took no Lease of your frail Tenement: I was but Tenant at my own will.

Term. Insolent! How dare you thus provoke my fury? Was ever Woman's Love like mine to thee? Perfidious man! [Weeps]

Belf. Jun. So: after the Thunder, thus the heat-drops fall.

Term. No; I scorn that thou shouldst bring Tears into my Eyes.

Belf. Jun. Why do you come to trouble me?

Term. Since I can please no longer, I'll come to plague thee, and if I dye before thee, my Ghost shall haunt thee.

Belf. Jun. Indeed your Love was most particular with spitting and scratching, like Caterwauling: And in the best of humours you were ever murmuring and complaining: Oh my Head akes, I am so sick; And Jealous to madness too.

Term. Oh Devil incarnate.

Tru. Belfond, thou art the most ungentle Knight alive.

Term. Methinks the pretty Child I have had by you should make you less inhumane.

Belf. Jun. Let me have it; I'll breed it up.

Term. No, thou shalt never have it while thou livest. I'll pull it Limb from Limb ere thou shalt have it.

Belf. Jun. This is so unnatural, that you will make me so far from thinking it mine, that I shall not believe it yours: But that you have put a false Child upon me.

Term. Unworthy Wretch.

Belf. Jun. When thou art old enough, thy malice and ill humour will qualify thee for a Witch; but thou hadst never Douceurs enough in thy Youth to fit thee for a Mistress.

Term. How dare you provoke me thus? For what little Dirty Wench am I thus us'd? If she be above ground I'll find her, and tear her Eyes out. Hah—By the Bed I see the Devil has been here to night—Oh oh, I cannot bear it.

Falls into a Fit.

Tru. Belfond, help the Lady for shame; lay hold on her.

Belf. Jun. No no, let her alone; she will not hurt her self I warrant thee: She is a rare Actor: She acts a fit of the Mother the best of any one in England. Ha ha ha.

Tru. How canst thou be so cruel?

Belf. Jun. What a Devil should I do? if a man lies once with a Woman is he bound to do it for ever?

Term. Oh oh.

Belf. Jun. Very well saith : Admirably well acted.

Term. Is it so ? Devil, Devil : I'll spoil your *Point de Venice* for you.

Flies at him.

Belf. Jun. Will you force me to make my Footman turn you out ?

Enter Footman.

Foot. Sir, Your Father and your Uncle are coming hither.

Belf. Jun. Sdeath my Father ! 'Tis impossible.

Foot. By Heaven 'tis true ; they are coming up by this time.

Belf. Jun. Look you Madam, you may if you will ruine me ; and put me out of all means of doing for you or your Child : Try me once more, and get into the Bed and cover your self with the Quilt, or I am undone.

Term. Villain, you deserve to be ruin'd : but I love my Child too well.

Tru. For Heavens sake hide your self in the Bed quickly.

Term. No no, I'll run into the Closet.

Belf. Jun. Death and Hell ! I am ruin'd : There's a young Girl there ; she'll make yet a worse uproar.

Tru. Peace, let me alone. Madam, whatever happens, ruine not your self and Child inevitably.

Enter Sir VWilliam Belfond, Sir Edward, and Servants.

Sir Edw. Ned, good morrow to thee.

Belf. Jun. Your Blessing Sir.

Sir Edw. Heaven bless thee. Here's one unexpected.

Belf. Jun. My Father ! I beg your blessing Sir.

Sir Will. Heaven mend you ; it can never bless you in the leud course you are in.

Belf. Jun. You are misinform'd Sir, my courses are not so leud as you imagine.

Sir Will. Do you see ; I am misinform'd : He'll give me the lye.

Belf. Jun. I would first bite my Tongue in pieces, and spit it at you : Whatever little heats of Youth I have been guilty of, I doubt not but in a short time to please you fully.

Sir Edw. Well said Ned ; I dare swear thou wilt.

Sir Will. Good Brother Credulous : I thank Heaven I am not so. You were not drunk last night with Bullies, and roar'd and ranted, scour'd, broke VVindows, beat the VVatch, broke open a House, and forc'd away a VVench in *Salisbury-Court*. This is a fine life. This he calls heats of Youth.

Belf. Jun. I was at home by Eight a Clock last night, and supp'd at home ; and never keep such Company.

Sir Will. No, no ; you are not call'd Squire Belfond by the Scoundrels your Companions ? 'Twas not you : No no.

Belf. Jun. Not I upon my faith ; I never keep such Company, or do such actions : If any one should call me Squire I'd break his head : Some Rascal has usurp'd my Name.

Sir Edw. Look you Brother, what would you have ? This must be some mistake.

Sir Will. VVhat a Devil ! You believe this too ? Ounds ! you make me mad ! Is there any of our Name in *England* but our selves ? Does he think to flamm me with a Lye ?

Belf.

Belf. Jun. I scorn a Lye, 'tis the basest thing a Gentleman can be guilty of all my Servants can testify I stirred not out last night.

Trum. I assure you Sir he was not abroad last night.

Sir Will. You assure me! Who are you one of his hopeful Companions? No your Cloths are not good enough, you may be his Pimp.

Tru. You are the Father of my Friend, an Old Gentleman, and a little mad.

Sir Will. Old! VValk down; I'll try your youth; I'll fight with the bravest Ruffian he keeps Company with.

Sir Edw. Brother are you mad? Has the Country robbed you of all good manners, and common sense?

Sir Will. I had a bout with two of your Bullies in the *Temple-walks*.

Belf. Jun. VVhom does he mean? This is a Gentleman of Estate and Quality, he has above 2000*l.* a year.

Sir Edw. You are a Mad Man, I am ashamed of you. Sir, I beseech you pardon my Brothers Passion, which transports him beyond Civility.

Belf. Jun. I know you will for my sake.

Tru. He is the Father of my dearest Friend; I shall be glad to serve him.

Sir Edw. Will you never be of age of Discretion? For shame use me, your Son, and every body better.

Sir Will. Well, I must be run down like a tame Puppy.

Lucia within. Murder, murder; Help, help; ah, ah!

Belf. Jun. Oh this damned she Devil.

Termagant pulls Lucia out by the hair; they part them.

Term. I'll make you an Example: VVill you see him, whether I will or no, you young VVhore!

Sir Will. Here's a Son! Here's a fine Son! Here's your breeding! Here's a pretty Son! Here's a delicate Son! Here's a dainty Son!

Sir Edw. If he be mad, will you be madder.

Belf. Jun. Turn out this she Bear; turn her out to the Rabble.

Term. Revenge, you Villain, Revenge.

Exit Term. and Foot.

Belf. Jun. Dear Friend, prithee see this innocent Girl safe in the Chair, from that outrageous Strumpets fury.

Exit Tru. and Lucy.

Sir Will. Here's a Son, here's a Son! Very well; make much of him. Here's the effect of Whoring.

Belf. Jun. No Sir, 'tis the effect of not Whoring: This Rage is because I have castrated her off.

Sir Will. Yes, yes, for a younger; a sweet Reformation! Let me not see your Face, nor hear you speak; you will break my heart.

Belf. Jun. Sir, the young Girl was never here before; she brought me Linnen from the Exchange.

Sir Will. A fine Bawd her Mistress in the mean time.

Belf. Jun. This furious VVench coming in to rail at me for my leaving her, I was forc'd to put the other into that Closet; and at your coming up, against my will, this run into the same Closet.

Sir Will. Sirrah, most audacious Rogue, do you sham me? Do you think you have your Uncle to deal with? Avoid my presence Sirrah. Get you out Sirrah.

Belf. Jun. I am sorry I offended : I obey.

Exit Belf. Jun.

Sir Will. I could have found in my heart to have Cudgell'd him.

Sir Edw. Shame of your Family ; you behave your self so like a Mad-man and a Fool, you will be begg'd : These fits are more extravagant than any thing he can be guilty of. Do you give your Son the words of Command you use to Dogs ?

Sir Will. Justifie him, do : He's and excellent Son ! a very pretty Son ! a delicate Son ! a virtuous Son ! a discreet Son ! he is.

Sir Edw. Pray use me better, or I'll assure you, we must never see one another : Besides, I shall entail my Estate for want of Issue by this Son here, upon another Family, if you will treat me thus.

Sir Will. What says he ? *aside.* Well Brother I ha done : His lewdness distracted me ! Oh my poor Boy in the Country ; I long to see him, the great support of my declining Age.

Sir Edw. Let us calmly reason : VVhat has your breeding made of him (with your Patience) but a Blockhead ?

Sir Will. A Blockhead ! VVhen he comes the VVorld shall judge which of us has been the wiser in the Education of a Son : A Blockhead ? VVhy he knows a sample of any Grain as well as e're a fellow in the North : Can-handle a Sheep or Bullock as well as any one : Knows his seasons of Plowing, Sowing, Harrowing, laying fallow : Understands all sorts of Manure : And ne're a one that wears a Head can wrong him in a Bargain.

Sir Edw. A very pretty fellow, for a Gentlemans Bailly.

Sir Will. For his own Bailly, and to be a rich——

Sir Edw. Swine, and live as nastily ; and keep worse Company than Beasts in a Forest.

Sir Will. He knows no Vice, poor Boy.

Sir Edw. He will have his turn to know it then ; as sure as he will have the Small Pox ; and then he'll be fond on't, when his Brother has left it.

Sir Will. I defy the Omen : he never VVhores, nor Drinks hard, but upon design, as driving a Bargain, or so ; and that I allow him.

Sir Edw. So : Knavish and designing Drunkeness you allow ; but not good fellowship for mirth and conversation.

Sir Will. Now Brother, pray what have you made your Son good for, with your breeding you so much boast of ? Let's hear that now : Come on, let's hear.

Sir Edw. First, I bred him at *Westminster-School*, till he was Master of the *Greek* and *Latin* Tongues ; then I kept him at the University, where I instructed him to read the Noble *Greek* and *Roman* Authors.

Sir Will. VVell, and what use can he make of the Noble *Greek* and *Latin*, but to prate like a Pedant, and shew his Parts over a Bottle ?

Sir Edw. To make a man fit for the Conversation of Learned Gentlemen is one noble end of Study : But those Authors make him wiser and honest, Sir, to boot.

Sir Will. VViser ! Will he ever get Six-pence, or improve or keep his Estate by 'em ?

Sir Edw. Mean Notions : I made him well vers'd in History.

Sir Will. That's a pretty study indeed: How can there be a true History, when we see no man living is able to write truly the History of the last week?

Sir Edw. He by the way read Natural Philosophy, and had insight enough in the Mathematicks.

Sir Will. Natural Philosophy! knows nothing: Nor would I give a fart for any Mathematician, but a Carpenter, Bricklayer, or Measurer of Land, or Saylor.

Sir Edw. Some moderate skill in it will use a man to reason closely.

Sir Will. Very pretty: Reason! Can he Reason himself into six Shillings by all this?

Sir Edw. He needs it not: But to go on; after three years I remov'd him from the University (lest he should have too strong a tincture of it) to the Temple; there I got a modest learned Lawyer, of little practice, for want of Impudence; and there are several such that want, while empty Impudent fellows thrive and swagger at the Bar: This man I got to instruct my Son in some old Common Law Books, the Statutes, and the best Pleas of the Crown, and the Constitution of the old true English Government.

Sir Will. Does he get a Shilling by all this? But what a Devil made you send him into France, to make an arrant vain Coxcomb of him?

Sir Edw. There he did all his manly Exercises; saw two Campaigns; studied History; Civil Laws, and Laws of Commerce; the Language he spoke well ere he went. He made the Tour of Italy, and saw Germany, and the Low Countries, and return'd well skill'd in Foreign Affairs, and a Compleat accomplish'd English Gentleman.

Sir Will. And to know nothing of his own Estate, but how to spend it: my poor Boy has travell'd to better purpose: for he has travell'd all about my Lands, and knows every Acre and Nook, and the value of it: there's travel for you! Poor Boy.

Sir Edw. And he enjoys so little of that Estate he sees, as to be impatient for your Death: I dare swear mine wishes my Life, next to his own. I have made him a Compleat Gentleman, fit to serve his Country in any Capacity.

Sir Will. Serve his Country! Pox on his Country: 'Tis a Country of such Knaves, 'tis not worth the serving: All those who pretend to serve it, mean nothing but themselves. But among all things, how came you to make him a Fidler, always Fluting or Scraping? I had as leave hear a Jew's-Harp.

Sir Edw. I love Musick: Besides I would have young Gentlemen have as many helps to spend their time alone as can be; most of our Youth are ruin'd by having Time lye heavy on their hands, which makes them run into any base Company to shun themselves.

Sir Will. And all this Gentlemans Education is come to Drinking, Whoring, and Debauchery.

Enter Servant to Sir William.

Serv. Sir, Mr. *Scrapeall* is at your Attorneys Chamber in the Temple, and desires to discourse you.

Sir Will. Brother, I must go: I shall tell you when I see you next, what is my Business with him.

Sir Edw. Be sure to Dine with me;

Sir Will. I will —————

Exeunt.

Enter.

Enter Belfond Senior, Shamwel, Cheatly, Hackum, Lolpoop, French Valet, two Footmen, at the George, in White-Friers.

Cheat. Now thou look'st like an Heir indeed, my Lad: when thou cam'st up thou hadst the Scurvy Phiz of a meer Country put—He did thee a kindness that took thee for a Chief Constable.

Sham. Now thou shinest, Cousin, like a true *Belfond*! What 3000*l.* a year; entailed, and live like a Butcher, or Grazier, in the Country?

Hack. Give you joy, noble Sir, now you look like a true gallant Squire.

Lolp. Like a Squire, like a Puppy by th' Mafs: Ods-flesh, what will the awd man say; he'll be stark Wood.

Belf. Sen. Well, I was the fortunat'st man to light upon such true, such real Friends: I had never known any Breeding or Gentility without you.

Sham. You buried all your good parts in a sordid Swinish life in the North.

Belf. Sen. My Father kept me in ignorance, and would have made a *very* silly Blockheadly Put of me: Why, I never heard a Gentleman Banter, or cut a sham in my life before I saw you, nor ever heard such ingenious Discourse.

Hack. Nay, the world knows Mr. *Cheatly*, and Mr. *Shamwell*, are as Compleat Gentlemen as ever came within the *Friers*: And yet we have as fine Gentlemen as any in *England*; we have those here who have broke for 100000*l.*

Belf. Sen. Well, I protest and vow, I am so very fine, I do not know where to look upon my self first: I don't think my Lord Mayor's Son is finer.

Cheat. He is a Scoundrel compar'd to thee: There's ne'r a *Prigg* at Court out-shines thee. Thou shalt strut in the *Park*, where Countesses shall be enamour'd on thee.

Belf. Sen. I am overjoy'd: I can stand no ground: My dear friend *Cheatly*: My sweet Cousin *Shamwell*! Let me embrace such dear, such loving friends! I could grow to you, methinks, and stick here for ever. *They Embrace.*

Lolp. Ah! Dear loving Dogs! They love him by'r Lady, as a Cat loves a Maufe.

Belf. Sen. VVhat's that you mutter, Sirra? come hither Sirra! you are finer than any Squire in the Country.

Lolp. Pox of finery, I say; yeow maken a meer As, an Owl o' mee: Here are Sleeves fit for nought but a Miller to steale with when he takes Tole: and damn'd Cuffs here, one cannot dip ones Meat ith' Sawce for them: Odsflesh, give me my awd Cloths againe; would I were a whome in my Frock, dressing of my Geldings; poor *Titts*, they wanten me dearly, I warrant a.

Belf. Sen. VVell, there's no making a whistle of a Pigs Tail; This Puppy will never learn any breeding. Sirrah, behold me: here's Rigging for you; Here's a *Nabb*: you never saw such a one in your life.

Cheat. A rum *Nab*: it is a Beaver of 5*l.*

Belf. Sen. Look you there Blockhead.

Lolp. Look yeow there Blockhead I say.

Hack. Let me see your *Porker*: Here's a *Porker*; hers's a *Tisler*: Ha ha, Oh how I could whip a *Prigster* through the *Lungs*! Ha ha. *aside.*

Cheat. It cost sixteen Louydors in *Paris*. *Thrusts at Lolpoop.*

Hack. Ha ha.

He pushes towards Lolpoop.
Lolp.

Lolp. Hawd you, hawd you : And I take kibbo, I'll raddle the Bones o' thee ;
Ife tell a that : for aw th'art a Captain mun.

Belf. Sen. Look Sirrah, here's a show you Rogue ; Here's a sight of *Cole*,
Darby, the *Ready*, and the *Rhino*, you Rascal, you understand me not ! you
Loggerhead, you silly *Putt*, you understand me not ; Here are *Meggs* and *Smelts* ;
I ne're had such a sight of my own in my life. Here are more *Meggs* and *Smelts*,
you Rogue ; you understand me not.

Lolp. By'r Lady not I ; I understand not this South-Country speech not I.

Belf. Sen. Ah methinks I could tumble in em.. But dee hear *Putt*, *Putt*, *Putt*,
Sirrah, Here's a *Scout* ; what's a Clock ? what's a Clock Sirrah, Here's a *Tatler* ;
Gold, all Gold, you Rogue. Look on my finger Sirrah, look here ; Here's a *Famble*,
Putt, *Putt* ; You don't know what a *Famble*, a *Scout* or a *Tatler* is, you *Putt*.

Lolp. Fine sights for my awd Master ! Marry would I were sent from Constable
to Constable, and whipt home again by'r Lady.

Belf. Sen. Let's whett ; bring some VVine. Come on ; I love a VVhett ;
Pray let's huzza ; I love huzzaing mightily ; but where's your Lady, Captain,
and the *Blowing*, that is to be my *Natural*, my *Convenient*, my *Pure*.

Enter Servants with Bottles.

Hack. They'r just coming in : Come Betty.

Enter Mrs. Hackum and Mrs. Margaret.

Mrs. Hack. Come in Mrs. Margaret, come.

Marg. I am so agham'd.

Belf. Sen. Madam, your Servant ; I am very much oblig'd to your Favours.

Mrs. Hack. I shall be proud to do a Gentleman, like you, any service that lies
in my power, as a Gentlewoman.

Belf. Sen. O Lord, Madam, your most humble Servant to Command : My
pretty *Blowing* let me kiss thee : Thou shalt be my *Natural* : I must mannage
thee. She is a *Pure Blowing*. My pretty Rogue—how happy shall I be ?
Pox o' the Country I say. Madam *Hackum*, to testify my gratitude, I make
bold to Equip you with some *Meggs*, *Smelts*, *Decus's* and *Georges*.

Mrs. Hack. I am your Faithful Servant, and I shall be glad of any occasion
whereby to express how ready I am to serve any Gentleman, or person of Qua-
lity, as becomes a Gentlewoman ; and upon honour Sir, you shall never find me
tardy :

Cheat. Come on Sirra, fill up all the Glasses ; a Health to this pretty Lady :

Belf. Sen. Ay, and i'faith I'll drink it, pretty Rogue.

Sham. Let them be *Facers*.

Belf. Sen. *Facers* ! VVhat are those ? Nay, give the Lady and the Captains
Lady too.

Marg. No, I cannot drink, I am not dry.

Mrs. Hack. Give it me.

Sham. There's a *Face* for you. *Drinks the Glas clear off, and puts it to his Face.*

Belf. Sen. Excellent adad ! Come to our *Facers*. *All do the like.*

It is the prettiest way of Drinking : Fill again, we'll have more *Facers*. *Fiddles flourish without.*

Ha Boys ! the Musicians are come. Ha Boys, we'll sing, dance, roar, fling the House out of the Windows ; and I will *manage* my pretty *Natural*, my *pure Blowing* here. Huzza : My dear Friends, *Shamuel* and *Chearly*, I am transported ! My pretty *Natural* : Kifs me, kifs me : Huzza.

Marg. Nay puh, you do so ruffle ones things.

Belf. Sen. I'll ruffle the more, my little Rogue, before I have done with thee. Well, I shall never make you amends, my dear Friends. Sirrah, *Lolpoop*, is not this better than the Country, Sirrah ? Give the Rogue a *Facer* to my Mistress. Come, fill about the *Facers*. Come on, my Lads, stand to't. Huzza. I vow 'tis the prettiest way of Drinking, never, stir.

Enter four Servants with four Dishes of Meat, who cross the Stage.

Cheat. So here's the *Prog*, here's the Dinner coming up ; the Cloath's laid in the next room. Here's a noble Dinner.

Belf. Sen. Ha Boys, we'll sing and roar, and Huzza, like Devils.

Enter Sir William Belfond at the Door.

Ounds ! Who's here ? my Father ? *Lolpoop*, *Lolpoop*, hide me : give me my *Joseph*. Let's sneak into the next Room.

Sham. Death : what shall we do ? This is the Bully's Father.

Cheat. Let me alone ; I warrant you.

Hack. This is old the Fellow I had like to have had a Rubbers with in the morning.

Sir Will. Is he fallen into these hands ? Nay, then he's utterly lost : His Estate is spent before he has it.

Cheat. How now *Prigg*, what makes you come into our Room ?

Sir Will. I would speak with Squire *Belfond*.

Cheat. Here's no such man.

Sir Will. Oh Bully, are you there ; and my ungracious Kinsman too ? would you bring my Son to the Gallows ! you most notorious seducer of young heirs, I know you too. I warrant you I'll keep my dear Boy in the Country far enough from your Clutches. In short, I would speak with my Rebellious Town-Son, who is here, and bespoke this great Dinner.

Cheat. bantering. Why look you Sir, according to your assertion of things doubtful in themselves ; you must be forc'd to grant that whatsoever may be, may also as well not be, in their own essential differences and degrees.

Sir Will. What stuff's this ? Where's my Son ?

Cheat. Your Question consists of two terms : the one *ubi*, where : but of that I shall say nothing, because here is no Son nor any thing belonging to you, to be the subject matter of debate, at this time ; forasmuch as---

Sir Will. Do you hear me Sir, let me see my Son ; and offer to banter me, or sham me once more, and I will cut your Throat, and Cudgel your brace of Cowards.

Cheat. Nay then 'tis time to take a course with you. Help, help ; an Arrest, an Arrest ; a Bailly, a Bailly.

Hack.

Hack, & Sham. An Arrest, an Arrest.

Sir Will. You Dogs? Am I a Baily?

Cheat. You shall be us'd like one, you old Prigg. An Arrest.

Sir Will. Impudent Dogs! I must run, or I shall be pull'd in pieces. Help, help, an Arrest, an Arrest.

All cry out an Arrest: Drawers and some of the Rabble come in and join with the Cry, which gets into the street; there they cry out too: He joins the Cry, and runs away: Cheat. Sham. Hack. Drawers follow him, and cry out, stop, stop a Baily.

Cheat. Sham. Hack. in the street. Stop, stop, a Baily, a Baily.

Sir William runs, the Rabble pursue him cross the Stage.

ACT III. SCENE I.

Enter Mrs. Termagant and her Brother.

Term. **A**S I told you, I have had a Child by him; he is my Husband by Contract; and casts me off: Has dishonour'd me, and made me infamous. Shall you think to Game and Bully about the Town, and not vindicate the honour of your Family?

Bro. No man shall dare to dishonour our Family.

Enter Belfond Junior.

Term. If you do not cut his Throat, you'll be kickt up and down for a Damn'd Coward: And besides you shall never see a penny of mine more.

Bro. I'll fight him an he be above ground.

Term. There, there's the Traytor, walking before his Uncles door: be sure dispatch him: On, I'll withdraw.

Exit.

Bro. Do you hear Sir, do you know Mrs. Termagant?

Belf. Jun. What makes you ask such a familiar question Sir?

Bro. I am her Brother.

Belf. Jun. Perhaps so: VVell, I do? VVhat then Sir?

Bro. Ours is an ancient Family as any in England, tho perhaps unfortunate at present: The Termagants came in with the Conqueror.

Belf. Jun. It may be so: I am no Herald.

Bro. And do you think you shall dishonour this Family, and debauch my Sister unchastiz'd? you are contracted to her, and have lain with her.

Belf. Jun. Look you Sir, I see what you would be at; She's mad, and puts you upon this: Let me advise you, 'tis a foolish quarrel.

Bro. You debauch'd her, and have ruin'd her.

Belf. Jun. 'Tis false; the silliest Coxcomby Beau in Town had the first of her

Bro. You have had a Child by her.

Belf. Jun. Then I have added one to your Ancient Family that came in with the

the *Norman*; Prithce do not provoke me to take away one from it.

Brother. You are contracted to her; and if you will marry her I will save your life.

Belf. Jun. 'Tis a Lye; I am not contracted to her: Be gone, urge me no more.

Brother. Draw.

Belf. Jun. Have at you.

Enter Sir Edward Belfond.

Sir Edw. Hold, hold: Oh my Son, *Belf. strikes up his heels and disarms him.*
my Son! VVhat's the matter? my dear Son, art thou not hurt? let me see.

Belf. Jun. No Sir, not at all, dear Sir. Here take your Sword, and be gone: Next time you come to trouble me, I'll cut your throat. *Exit Brother.*

Sir Edw. What's the matter, dear *Ned*? This is about some Wench I warrant.

Belf Sen. 'Tis a Brother of that furious Wench you saw Sir; her violent Love is converted into hatred.

Sir Edw. You young fellows will never get knowledge but at your own cost, the precepts of the old weigh nothing with you.

Belf. Jun. Your precepts have been ever sacred to me; and so shall your example be henceforward: You are the best of men; the best of Fathers; I have as much honour for you as I can have for humane Nature: And I love you ten thousand times above my life.

Sir Edw. Dear *Ned*, thou art the greatest joy I have: And believe thy Father, and thy Friend, there's nothing but Anxiety in Vice: I am not freight Lac'd; but when I was Young, I ne're knew any thing gotten by Wenching, but Duels, Claps, and Bastards: And every drunken fit is a short madness, that cuts off a good part of Life.

Belf. Jun. You have reason Sir, and shall ever be my Oracle hereafter.

Sir Edw. 'Tis time now to take up, and think of being something in the World: See then, my Son, tho thou shouldst not be over busie, to lide with Parties and with Factions, yet that thou takest a care to make some figure in the World, and to sustain that part thy Fortune, Nature and Education fit thee for.

Belf. Jun. Your wise advice I'll strive to follow: But I must confess, I am most passionately in Love, and am with your consent, resolv'd to Marry: Tho I will perish e're I do't without it.

Sir Edw. Be sure to know the humour of the Woman; you run a mighty hazard: But if you be valiant enough to venture, (which, I must confess, I never was) I'll leave it to your own choice: I know you have so much honour, you will do nothing below your self.

Belf. Jun. I doubt not of your Approbation; but till I can be sure of obtaining her: Pardon me if I conceal her Name.

Enter Sir William Belfond.

Sir Edw. Your Father comes, retire a little within hearing, till I soften him somewhat: He is much mov'd, as he always is, I think. *He retires.*

Sir Will. Now Brother, as I was saying, I can convince you, your Son, your Darling, whom you long have foster'd in his Wickedness, is become the most profligate of all Rascals.

Sir Edw. Still upon this subject.

Sir

Sir Will. 'Tis very well ; my Mouth must be stop'd, and your Ears : 'Tis wondrous well. But I have had much ado to escape with life, from him, and his Notorious fellow Rogues : As I told you when I had found that the Rogue was with his Wicked Associates, at the *George in white friers* ; when they saw I was resolv'd to see my Son, and was rough with 'em, *Cheatly* and his Rogues set up a Cry against me. An Arrest ! a Bailly : An Arrest ! The Mobile, and all the Rakehells in the House, and there about the Streets assembled : I run, and they had a fair Course after me into *Fleetstreet*, thanks to the Vigour I have left, my Heels have sav'd my Life : Your Infamous Rogue would have suffred me to have been sacrificed to the Rabble.

Sir Edw. Ha ha ha, very pretty faith ; it runs very well : Can you tell it over again think you ?

Sir Will. Ounds ! Am I become your Scorn ? Your Laughter ?

Sir Edw. Ned, You hear all this ?

Belf. Jun. appears.

Belf. Jun. Yes ; and am distracted to know the meaning of it.

Sir Will. Vile Parricide ! Are you gotten here before me ? You are monstrous nimble Sir.

Belf. Jun. By all the Powers of Heaven ! I never was at the *George* in my Life.

Sir Will. Oh then they stay for you, you have not yet been there ; you'll lose your Dinner, 'tis served up — Vile Wretch.

Belf. Jun. All this is Cross purposes to me : I came to my Unkles House from my own Lodgings immediately ; when you were pleas'd to banish me your presence, and here have been ever since.

Sir Will. Nay, he that will be a through Villain, must be a compleat Lye : Were not you even now with your Associates Rascals at the *George* ?

Belf. Jun. No, by Heaven ! Nor was I ever in the Company of any of that Gang : I know their Infamy too well, to be acquainted with their Persons.

Sir Will. I am not Drunk, nor Mad : but you will make me one of them.

Belf. Jun. These Rascals have gotten some body to personate me ; and are undoubtedly carrying on some Cheat in my Name.

Sir Edw. Brother it must be.

Sir Will. Yes, yes, no doubt it must be so : And I must be in a Dream all this while, I must.

Sir Edw. You say your self, you did not see my Son there.

Sir Will. No, he was too nimble for me, and got out some back way, to be here before me ; so to face down the truth.

Belf. Jun. I'll instantly go thither, and discover this Imposture, that I may suffer no longer for the faults of others.

Sir Edw. Dine first : My Dinners ready.

Belf. Jun. Your pardon Sir, I will go instantly : I cannot rest till I have done my self right.

Sir Edw. Let's in, and discourse of this matter : Brother, I must say this, I never took him in a Lye since he could speak.

Sir Will. Took him : No, nor never will take him in any thing.

Sir Edw. Lets in ——— and send your man with him.

Sir Will. It shall be so, tho' I am convinc'd already. Is there any of thy Name but you, and I, and my two Sons in *England*?

Belf. Jun. Be pleas'd to send my Footmen but to me, Sir.

Sir Edw. Have a care of a Quarrel, and bringing the *Alsatiens* about your Ears. Come Brother.

Ex. Sir Edw. and Sir Will.

Enter Lucia running, Termagant pursuing her.

Luc. Help, help, help.

Term. Now I have found you, you little Whore--I'll make you an example.

Luc. Oh Lord! are you here! Save me, save me, this Barbarous Woman threatens to murder me for your sake.

Belf. Jun. Save thee, Dear Miss: That I would at the peril of my Life: No danger shou'd make me quit thee, Cannons, nor Bombs.

Term. Damn'd false fellow: I'll take a time to slit her Nose.

Luc. Oh Heaven! she'll kill me.

Belf. Jun. Thou Devil: In thy properest shape of Furious, and Malicious Woman: Resolve to leave off this Course this moment, or by Heaven I'll lay thee fast in *Bedlam*: Had'st thou fifty brothers, I'd fight with them all, in defence of this dear pretty Miss.

Luc. Dear kind Creature! This sweet Love of thine, methinks does make me valiant, and I fear her not so much.

Enter Roger and his two Footmen.

Belf. Jun. Dear pretty Miss, I'll be thy safeguard.

Term. Thou falsest, basest of thy Sex; look to see thy Child sent thee in pieces, bak'd in a Pye, for so I will.

Belf. Jun. Though thou hat'st every thing living besides thy self; yet thou hast too much tenderness for thy own Person to bring it to the Gallows; offer to follow us one step, and I'll set the Rabble upon thee; come my dear Child.

Exeunt.

Term. Thou shalt be dogg'd; and I'll know who she is; Oh Revenge, Revenge; if thou dost not exceed, thou equal'st all the Extasies of Love.

Ex. Term.
Enter Cheatly, and Shamwell.

Cheat. Thus far our Matters go swimmingly; our Squire is as Debauch'd, and Prodigal, as we can wish.

Sham. I told you, all *England* could not afford an Heir like this for our purpose, but we must keep him always hot.

Cheat. That will be easie; we made him so Devilish Drunk tie the first two or three days, the least Bumper will warm his addle Head afresh at any time; He paid a great Fine; and may sit at a little Rent; I must be gone for a moment; our *Suffolk* Heir is Nabb'd, for a small business; and I must find him some Sham-bail; see the Captain performs his Charge.

Exit.

Enter Hackum.

Sham. Here he comes: See, Captain, you make that blockhead Drunk; and do as we directed.

Hack. He's almost Drunk, and we are in readiness for him; the Squire is retir'd with his Natural, so fond.

Sham. 'Tis well; about your business; I'll be with you soon.

Ex. Sham.

Enter

*Enter Lolpoop.**Hack.* Come on, Mr. *Lolpoop*: You and I'll be merry by our selves.*Lolpoop.* I must needs say Captain, yeow are a Civil Gentleman, but yeow han given me so many Bumpers: I am meet Drunken already.*Hack.* Come on, I warrant you: Here's a Bumper to the Squire's Lady.*Lolp.* With all my Heart.*Enter Betty.**Hack.* Oh Mrs. *Betty*, art thou come? I sent for this pretty Rogue to keep you Company: She's as pretty a Company-keeper as any in the *Friers*.*Lolp.* Ods-flesh, what shou'd I do in Company with Gentlewomen; 'Tis not for such Fellee's as I.*Hack.* Have Courage Man: You shall have her; and never want such a one while I am your Friend.*Lolp.* O Lord I! Do yeow know what yeow sain.*Bett.* A Proper, Handsome Gentleman, I swear.*Lolp.* Who I, no, no; What done yeow mean forsooth?*Bett.* I vow, I have not seen a handfomer; So proper, so well shap'd!*Lolp.* Oh Lord, I! I! Yeow jeern me naw.*Hack.* Why dont you salute her, Man?*Lolp.* Who I? By the Mafs, I dare not be so bold; What I kiss such a fine Gentlewoman?*Hack.* Kiss, Kiss her Man; This Town affords us such every where? You'll hate the Country when you see a little more; Kiss her I say.*Lolp.* I am so hala; I am asham'd.*Bett.* What must I do it to you then?*Lolp.* Oh rare! By th' Mafs! Whoo Kisses daintily; And Whoo has a breath like a Caw.*Hack.* Come, tother Bumper; To her health let this be, Here's to you.*Lolp.* Thanka; forsooth and yeow please.*Drinks to her.**Bett.* Yes, any thing that you do will please me.*Lolp.* Capt. Capt. What done yeow leave me?*Hack.* *steals out and leaves**Bett.* What are you affraid of me?*them together.**Lolp.* Nay, By'r Lady: I am asham'd, who's farinely a pratty Lasse! Marry.*Bett.* A handsome Man, and asham'd!*She edges nearer to him.**Lolp.* Who I, a Handsom Mon! Nay, Nay.*Bett.* A Lovely Man, I vow: I cannot forbear Kissing you.*Lolp.* Odear; 'tis your goodness; Ods-flesh, Whoo Loves me! who'll make me stark wood e'en naw; and yeow kissen me, By'r Lady, I's kiss yeow.*Bett.* What care I?*Lolp.* Looka there naw; Waunds, Whoo's a dainty Lasse, pure white and red; And most of the London Lasses are pure white and red; Welly aw like; and I had her in some Nook. Ods-flesh, I say no more.*Bett.* I'll stay no longer, farewell.*She retires.**Lolp.* Nay, I's not leave a soo; Marry whoo's a Gallant Lasse.*Ex. following her.**Enter.*

Enter Hackum.

Hack. So he's caught : This will take him off from teasing his Master with his damn'd good Counsel.

Enter Cheatly, and Shamwell.

Cheat. I have sent our *Alfarian* Attorney, and as Substantial Bail as can be wish'd for the Redemption of our *Suffolk* Caravan; he's ripe for another Judgment, he begins to want the Ready much.

Sham. *Scraper* is provided for him : How now Captain, what's become of your Blockhead?

Hack. He's nibbling at the Bait : He'll swallow presently.

Cheat: But hark you, *Shamwell* ! I have chosen the subtlest and handsomest Wench about this Town for the great Fortune I intend to bestow this hopeful Kinsman of yours upon : 'Tis Mrs. *Termagant*, his Brothers Cast Mistress, who resents her being left to that degree, that tho she meditates all the revenge, besides, that Womans Nature is capable of against him : Yet her Heart leapt for joy at this design of Marrying his Elder Brother : If it were for nothing but to plague the younger, and take place of his Wife.

Sham. I have seen her : She will personate a Town Lady of Quality admirably, and be as Haughty and Impertinent as the best of 'em : Is the Lodging, and Plate, and things ready for her?

Cheat. It is, she comes there this Afternoon ; she has set her Hand to a good swinging Judgment ; and thou and I will divide my Lad : And now, all we have to do, is to preserve him to our selves from any other Correspondence, and at down-right Enmity with his Father, and Brother ; And we must keep him continually hot, as they do a Glass-House, or our work will go backward.

Enter Belfond Senior, Mrs. Margaret, Mrs. Hackum, and his Servants.

Belf. Sen. Oh my dear Friend and Cousin ; tread upon my Neck : Make me your Footstool, you have made me a happy Man to know Plenty and Pleasure, good Company, good Wine, Musick, Fine Women ; Mrs. *Hackum* and I have been at Bumpers hand to fist ; Here's my pretty Natural, my dear pretty Rogue ; Adad, she's a Rare Creature, a Delicious Creature ! And between you and I, dear Friend, she has all her Goings as well as e'er a Blowing in *Christendom* ; Dear Madam *Hackum*, I am infinitely oblig'd to you.

Mrs. *Hack.* I am glad, Sir, she gives your Worship content, Sir.

Belf. Sen. Content ; Ah my pretty Rogue ! Pox o' the Country, I say, Capt. Capt. here ; Let me Equip you with a Quid.

Hack. Noble Squire ; I am your Spaniel-Dog.

Belf. Sen. Pox o' the Country, I say ; The best Team of Horses my Father has, shall not draw me thither agen.

Sham. Be firm to your Resolution, and thou'lt be happy.

Cheat. If you meet either your Father, or Brother, or any from those Prigsters, stick up thy Countenance, or thou art ruin'd, my Son of Promise, my brisk Lad in remainder, when one of 'em approaches thee, we'll all pull down our Hats, and cry bow wow.

Belf. Sen. I warrant you ; I am hardened, I knew my Brother in the Country, but they shant sham me, they shall find me a smoaky Thief ; I vow twill be a very pretty way ; Bow wow, I warrant thee I'll do it.

Enter

Enter Belfond Junior, two Footmen, and Roger.

Sham. Who the Devil's here! Your Brother, Courage.

Cheat. Courage, be rough and haughty my Bumpkin.

Belf. Sen. Hey, where are all my Servants; call 'em in. *Capt. calls them.*

Belf. Jun. Who is that in this House here, who usurps my Name, and is called Squire Belfond?

Belf. Sen. One who is called so without usurping. Bow wow.

Belf. Jun. Brother, Death do I Dream! Can I trust my Senses! Is this my Brother?

Belf. Sen. Ay, ay, I know I am Transmography'd; but I am your very Brother, Ned.

Belf. Jun. Could you be so unkind, to come to Town, and not see your nearest Kindred, your Uncle, and my self?

Belf. Sen. I would not come to disgrace you, till my Equipage was all ready. Hey, *La Mar*, is my Coach at the Gate next to the Green-Dragon?

Valet. Ouy Monsieur.

Belf. Sen. But I was resolv'd to give you a Visit to Morrow Morning.

Belf. Jun. I should have been glad to have seen you any where but here!

Belf. Sen. But here! Why 'tis as good a Tavern, as any's in Town. Sirrah fill some Bumpers: Here Brother, here's a *Facer* to you; We'll Huzza, call in the Fiddlers.

Belf. Jun. I am struck with Astonishment: Not all *Ovid's Metamorphosis* can shew such a one as this.

Belf. Sen. I see you wonder at my change: what would you never have a Man Learn breeding Adad? Should I always be kept a Country Bubble, a *Caravan*, a *Meer Putt*: I am brave and bowlie.

Belf. Jun. S'life! He has gotten the Cant too.

Belf. Sen. I shall be *Clear* by and by: T'other Bumper, brother.

Belf. Jun. No: I'll drink no more; I hate drinking between Meals.

Belf. Sen. Oh Lord! Oh Lord! hate drinking between Meals! what Company do you keep? But 'tis all one. Here Brother, pray salute this pretty Rogue: I *mannage* her; she is my *Natural*, my pure *Blowing*; I am resolv'd to be like a Gentleman and keep, brother.

Belf. Jun. A thorough-pac'd *White-Friers* man!
I never refuse to kiss a pretty woman.

aside.

Belf. Sen. This is Mrs *Hackum*; I am much oblig'd to her: Pray salute her.

Belf. Jun. What a Pox! will he make me kiss the Bawd too.

Salutes her.

Belf. Sen. Brother, now pray know these Gentlemen here; they are the prettiest Wits that are in the Town: And between you and I brother, brave gallant fellows, and the best friends I ever had in my life: This is Mr. *Cheatly*, and this is my Cousin *Shamwell*.

Belf. Jun. I know 'em, and am acquainted with their worth.

Cheat. Your humble Servant, sweet Sir.

Sham. Your Servant Cousin.

Belf. Sen. And this is my dear Friend Captain *Hackum*; There is not a braver fellow under the Sun.

Belf.

Belf. Jun. By Heaven, a downright *Alsatian*.

Belf. Sen. Come Musicians, strike up; and sing the Catch the Captain gave you, and we'll join i' faith. We can be merry brother, and we can roar!

Hack. 'Tis a very pretty magnanimous military business upon the Victory in Hungary.

*Hark, how the Duke of Lorraine comes,
The brave Victorious Soul of War;
With Trumpets and with Kettle Drums,
Like Thunder rolling from afar.*

*On the Left Wing the conquering Horse
The brave Bavarian Duke does lead;
These Heroes with united force,
Fill all the Turkish Host with dread.*

*Their bright Caparisons behold;
Rich Habits, Streamers, Shining Arms,
The glittering Steel and burnish'd Gold,
The pomp of War with all its Charms.*

*With solemn March, and fatal pace,
They bravely on the Foe press on;
The Cannons roar, the Shot takes place,
Whilst Smoak and Dust obscure the Sun.*

*The Horses Neigh, the Soldiers shout,
And now the furious Bodies joyn,
The slaughter rages all about,
And men in groans their Blood resign.*

*The Weapons Clash, the Roaring Drum,
With Clanger of the Trumpets sound,
The howls and yells of men o'rcome,
And from the Neighbouring Hills rebound.*

*Now, now the Infidels give place,
Then all in Rout: they headlong fly,
Heroes in Dust pursue the Chase,
While deafning Clamors rend the Sky.*

Belf. Sen. You see brother, what Company I keep: What's the matter you are melancholy.

Belf. Jun. I am not a little troubled brother, to find you in such cursed Company.

Belf.

Belf. Sen. Hold Brother, if you love your life : They are all stout ; but that same Captain has kill'd his five men.

Belf. Jun. Stout say you ? This fellow *Cheatly* is the most notorious Rascal and Cheat that ever was out of a Dungeon : This kinsman a most silly bubble first, and afterwards a betrayer of young Heirs, of which they have not ruin'd less than two hundred, and made them run out their Estates before they came to them.

Belf. Sen. Brother, Do you love your life ? the Captain's a Lyon !

Belf. Jun. An Ass, is he not ? He is a Russian, a Cook-bawd to that Hen.

Cheat. If you were not the brother to my dearest friend, I know what my honour would prompt me to. *Walks in a buff.*

Sham. My dear Cousin, thou shalt now find how intirely I am thine : My Honour will not let me strike thy brother.

Hack. But that the punctilio's of Honour are sacred to me ; which tell me nothing can provoke me against the brother of my noble friend, I had whipt him through the Lungs ere this.

Belf. Sen. Well, never man met with such true, such loving Friends.

Belf. Jun. Look you brother, will this convince you, that you are fallen into the hands of Fools, Knaves, Scoundrels and Cowards.

Belf. Sen. Fools ! nay there I am sure you are out : They are all deep, they are very deep and sharp ; sharp as Needles, adad ; the wittiest men in England. Here's Mr. *Cheatly* in the first place shall Sham and Banter with you, or any one you shall bring for 500 l. of my Money.

Belf. Jun. Rascally stuff ; fit for no places but *Ram-alley*, or *Pye-corner*.

Belf. Sen. Perswade me to that : They are the merriest Companions, and the truest Friends to me : 'Tis well for you adad, that they are so ; for they are all of them as stout as *Hector*.

Belf. Jun. This is most amazing.

Sham. Did I not tell you he would envy your condition ; and be very angry with us that put you into't.

Cheat. He must needs be a kind brother : we prove our selves your true Friends ; and have that respect for your Blood, that we will let none of it out, where-ere we meet it upon any cause.

Belf. Sen. You see brother, how their Love prevails over their Valour.

Belf. Jun. Their Valour ! Look you brother, here's *Kicks Cheatly*
Valour. *and Shamw.*

Cheat. I understand honour and breeding, besides I have been let blood to day.

Sham. Nothing shall make me transgress the Rules of Honour I say.

Belf. Jun. Here ! Where are you ? Sirrah ; Kill- *Takes Hackum by the Nose, and leads him.*
Cow.

Hack. 'Tis no matter ; I know Honour ; I know punctilio's to a hair. You owe your life to your brother, besides, I am to be second to a dear Friend, and preserve my vigour for his service ; but for all that, were he not your brother--

Belf. Jun. Will not this convince you, brother, of their Cowardice ?

Belf. Sen. No, I think not ; for I am sure they are Valiant ; this convinces me

of their respect and friendship to me : My best friends, let me embrace you : A thousand thanks to you.

Belf. Jun. I will redeem him yet from these Rascals if I can : You are upon the brink of ruine, if you go not off with me, and reconcile your self to my Father ; I'll undertake it upon good terms.

Belf. Sen. No, I thank you : I'll seek no Father ; he shall use me no more like a Dog : he shall put upon me no longer. Look you Sir, I have *Ready, Rhino, Cole, Darby* ; look here Sir !

Belf. Jun. Dear Brother, let me persuade you to go along with me.

Belf. Sen. You love me ! and use my best Friends thus ? ne'r stir, I desire none of your Company : I'll stick to my friends : I look upon what you have done as an affront to me.

Hack. No doubt it is so.

Sham. That's most certain ; you are in the right, Cousin.

Cheat. We love you but too well, that angers him.

Belf. Jun. Well, I shall take my leave : You are in your Cups : You will wish you had heard me. Rogues, I shall take a course with you.

Belf. Sen. Rogues ! They scorn your words.

Belf. Jun. Fare you well.

Belf. Sen. Fare you well Sir, and you be at that sport.

Belf. Jun. Roger, do not discover him to my Father yet ; I'll talk with him cool in a morning first ; perhaps I may redeem him.

Roger. I'll do it as you would have me. *Ex. Belfond Junior, Roger and 2 Foot.*

Belf. Sen. So now we are free, Dear Friends, I never can be grateful enough : But 'tis late, I must shew my new Coach ; come Ladies. *Exeunt.*

Enter Attorney and Lucia.

Attor. How now, Daughter *Lucia* ! where hast thou been ?

Luc. I have been at Evening Prayers at St. *Brides*, and am going whom through the Temple.

Attor. Thou art my good Girl.

Enter Mrs. Termagant.

Luc. Oh Heaven ! Who's here !

Attor. What's the matter ?

Luc. I am taken ill on a sudden : I'll run home.

Term. Stay, stay ; thou wicked Author of my misfortune.

Attor. How's this ? Stay *Lucia* ! What mean you Madam ? The Girl's strangely disorder'd

Luc. Oh Heaven ! I am utterly ruin'd, beyond redemption.

Term. Is she your Daughter Sir.

Attor. She is.

Term. Then hear my story. I am contracted with all the solemnity that can be to Mr. *Belfond*, the Merchants Son ; and for this wicked Girl he has lately cast me off : And this morning I went to his Lodging, to enquire a reason of his late Carriage to me, I found there in his Closet this young shameless Creature, who had been in Bed with him.

Attor. Oh Heaven and Earth ! Is this true, Hufwife ?

Luc. Oh Lord I: I never saw the Gentleman nor her in my life: Oh she's a Confident thing!

Term. May all the Judgments due to Perjury fall on me, if this be not true: I tore her by the hair, and pomell'd her to some tune; till that inhumane Wretch *Belfond* turn'd me out of doors, and sent her away in a Chair.

Luc. O wicked Creature! Are you not afraid the Earth should open, and swallow you up? As I hope to be sav'd I never saw her?

Term. Tho young in years, yet old in Impudence; did I not pursue thee since in the street, till you run into *Belfonds* Arms just before his Fathers House? Or I had mark'd thee for a young Whore.

Luc. As I hope to live Sir, 'tis all false: Every Word and Tittle of it: I know not what she means.

Attor. Have I bestow'd so much, and taken so much care in thy Education, to have no other Fruit but this?

Luc. Oh Lord Sir! Why will you believe this wicked woman?

Attor. No, young Impudence! I believe you: what made you ready to Swoon at the sight of this Lady, but your Guilt?

Luc. She mistakes me for some other, as she did to day when she pursu'd me to have kill'd me; which made me tremble at the sight of her now.

Attor. And yet you never saw her before! I am convinced. Go, wicked Wretch, go home; This News will kill thy Mother, I'll to my Chamber, and follow thee.

Luc. But if I ever see her, or you either, to be lock'd from my dear *Belfond*, I shall deserve whatever you can do to me. *Exit.*

Attor. Madam, I beseech you make as few words as you can of this.

Term. I had much rather for my own honour have conceal'd it. But I shall say no more, provided you will keep her from him.

Attor. I warrant you Madam, I'll take a Course with her. Your Servant, *Ex.*

Enter Cheatly

Cheat. Madam, your most humble Servant: You see I am punctual to my Word.

Term. You are Sir.

Cheat. Come Madam, your Lodging, Furniture, and every thing are ready, lets lose no time: I'll wait on you thither, where we will consult about our Affairs.

Term. Come on: It is a rare design; and if it succeeds, I shall sufficiently be reveng'd on my Ungrateful Devil.

Cheat. I warrant the Success. *Exeunt.*

Enter Isabella, and Teresa.

Isab. We must be very careful of this Book: My Uncle, or our Dame Governante will burn it if they find it.

Teres. We cannot have a pleasant, or a witty book, but they serve it so: My Father loads us with books, such as the Tryal of Man, in the Isle of *Man*, or *Man shire*: a Treatise on Sabbath-breakers: And Health out-drinking, or Life out-healthing Wretches: A Caustick, or Corrosive, for a Sear'd Conscience.

Isab. A Sovereign Oyntment for a wounded Soul: A Cordial for a sick Sinner.

A The Nothingness of good Works: Waxed Boot Grace, for the *Suffex* ways of Affliction; and deal of such stuff: But all Novels, Romances, or Poetry, except *Quarles* and *Withers*, are an Abomination. Well, this is a Jewel, if we can keep it.

Enter Ruth behind them.

*Anger in hasty Words or Blows,
It self discharges on our Foes;
And sorrow too finds some relief
In tears which wait upon our grief:
Thus every Passion, but fond Love,
Unto its own Redress does moves.*

Teref. 'Tis sweet Poetry; There is a pleasing Charm in all he writes. *She snatch-
es the book.*

Ruth. Yea, there is a Charm of Satans in it: 'Tis Vanity and Darkness, this book hateth, and is contrary to the light; and ye hate the light.

Isab. That's much; and this Evening a little before Night, thou blamedst us for for looking out of the Window, and threatn'd to shut the painted Shaffes.

Teref. Now if thou shut'st those; thou hat'st the Light, and not we.

Ruth. Look thee *Teresia*; Thou art wanton, and so is thy Cousin *Isabella*; ye seek Temptation; you look out of the Casements to pick and cull young men, whereby to feed the lust of the Eye; ye may not do it. And look thee *Isabel*, and *Teresia*, if you open the Casements once more, I will place you ye in the back Rooms, and lock the fore Rooms up.

Teref. We will obey thee, *Ruth*.

Isab. We will not resist thy power; but prithee leave us that book.

Ruth. No, it is wanton and treateth of Love; I will instantly commit it to the Flames.

Isab. Shame on this old Wall-Ey'd Hypocrite; she is the strictest Tort of Jaylor;

Teref. We are as narrowly look'd to, as if we had been clapt up for Treason, we are kept from Books, Pen, Ink, and Paper.

Isab. Well, it is a most painful life to dissemble constantly.

Teref. 'Tis well we are often alone, to unbend to one another, one had as good be a Player; and Act continually else.

Isab. I can never perswade my self, that Religion can consist in Scurvy out of fashion Cloaths, stiff constrain'd behaviour, and sower Countenances.

Teref. A trifful Aspect, looking always upon ones Nose, with a Face full of Spiritual Pride.

Isab. And when one walks abroad, not to turn ones Head to the right or left, but hold it strait forward, like an Old blind Mare.

Teref. True Religion must make one chearful, and effect one with the most ravishing Joy which must appear in the Face too.

Isab. My good Mother had the Government, and brought me up to better things, as thy good Aunt did thee.

Teref. But we can make no use of our Education under this Tyranny.

Isab. If we should Sing or Dance, 'twere worse than Murder.

Teref. But of all things, why do they keep such a stir to keep us from the Conversation of Mankind: Sure there must be more in it, than we can imagine; and that makes one have a mind to try;

Isab.

Isab. Thou hast been so unquiet in thy sleep of late, and so given to sigh, and get alone when thou art awake ; I fancy thou dost imagine somewhat of it.

Teres. Ah Rogue, and I have observ'd the same in thee ; canst thou not guess at Love ; come, confess, and I'll tell all.

Isab. Sometimes in my Dreams, methinks I am in Love, then a certain Youth comes to me ; and I grow chill, and pant, and feel a little pain : But 'tis the prettiest thing methinks : And then I awake and blush, and am afraid.

Teres. Very pretty : And when I am awake, when I see one Gentleman, methinks I could look through him : and my Heart beats, beats like the Drums in the Camp.

Isab. I dare not ask who 'tis, for fear it should be my Man ; for there are two come often to our Church, that stare at us continually, and one of them is he.

Teres. I have observ'd them : One, who sate by us at Church, knew them by their Names ; I am for one of them too.

Isab. I well remember it.

Teres. If it be my Man thou lik'st, I'll kill thee.

Isab. And if thou lov'st my Man, we must not live together.

Teres. Name him.

Isab. Do thou name first.

Teres. Let's write their Names.

Isab. Agreed : We each have a Black-Lead Pen.

Teres. Truman, Mercy on me !

Isab. Belfond, Oh Heavens !

Teres. What's this I see ! would I were blind.

Isab. Oh my *Teresia* !

Teres. Get thee from me.

Isab. 'Tis as it should be ; I wrote the wrong Name, on purpose to discover who was your Man more clearly ; the other's my beloved. *Belfond's* my Heart's delight.

Teres. Say'st thou so my Girl ! good Wits jump. I had the same thought with thee. Now 'tis out, *Truman* for me ; and methinks they keep such a staring at us, if we contrive to meet them, we need not despair.

Isab. Nay, they come not for devotion, that's certain ; I see that in their Eyes : Oh that they were ordain'd to free us from this odious Jayl.

Enter Ruth, and Truman disguis'd.

Ruth. Go into your Chamber ; here is a Man cometh about business : Ye may not see him.

Teres. We go : Come Cousin.

Ruth. Come Friend ; let us retire also.

Exeunt.

*They write their Papers
and give them to one
another, at which they
both speak together &
start.*

ACT.

ACT IV. SCENE I.

Enter Belfond Junior, and Lucia.

Luc. I Never more must see the Face of a Relation.

Belf. Jun. I warrant thee, my pretty Rogue, I'll put thee into that condition the best of all thy kindred shall visit thee, and make their Court to thee; thou shalt spark it in the Boxes, shine at the Park, and make all the young fellows in the Town run mad for thee: Thou shalt never want, while I have any thing.

Luc. I cou'd abandon all the World for thee; if I cou'd think that thou wouldst love me always.

Belf. Jun. Thou hast so kindly oblig'd me, I shall never cease to love thee.

Luc. Pray Heaven I do not repent of it: You were kind to Mrs. *Termagant*; and sure it must be some barbarous usage, which thus provokes her now to all this malice.

Belf. Jun. She was debauch'd by the most nauseous Coxcomb, the most silly Beau and Shape about the Town; and had Cuckolded him with several before I had her. She was indeed handsome, but the most froward, ill-natur'd Creature, always murmuring or Scolding, perpetually jealous and exceptionous, ever thinking to work her ends by Hectoring and daring.

Luc. Indeed! Was she such a one? I am sure, you were the first that ever had my heart, and you shall be the last.

Belf. Jun. My dear, I know I had thy Virgin heart, and I'll preserve it. But for her, her most diverting minutes were unpleasant: Yet for all her Malice which you see, I still maintain her.

Luc. Ungrateful Creature! She is indeed a Fury. Shou'dst thou once take thy Love from me, I never should use such ways: silently should mourn and pine away; but never think of once offending thee.

Belf. Jun. Thou art the prettiest, sweetest, softest Creature! and all the tenderest Joys that wait on Love, are ever with thee.

Luc. Oh, this is Charming kindness! May all the joys on Earth be still with thee.

Belf. Jun. aside. Now here's a mischief on the other side; For how can a good natur'd man think of ever quitting so tender, and so kind a Mistress, whom no respect, but love has thrown into my Arms: And yet I must: But I will better her condition. Oh, how does my Friend,

Enter Truman.

Luc. Oh Lord! VVho's here?

Belf. Jun. My Dear, go to the Lodging I have prepar'd for thee; thou wilt be safe, and I'll wait on the soon. Who's there?

Enter Servants.

Do you wait on this Ladies Chair, you know whither.

Tru.

Tru. Thou art a pretty fellow, *Belfond*, to take thy pleasure thus, and put thy Friend upon the damndest drudgery.

Belf. Jun. VVhat drudgery? a little dissembling.

Tru. Why that were bad enough, to dissemble my self an As; but to dissemble Love, nay Lust, is the more irksome task a Man can undergo.

Belf. Jun. But priethee come to the point: in short, have we any hopes.

Tru. 'Tis done; the business is done: VVhip on your habit; make no words.

Belf. Jun. I'll put it on in my Dressing-Room. This News transports me.

Tru. If you had undergone what I have done, 'twould have humbled you: I have enjoy'd a Lady; but I had as lieve have had a *Lancashire* VVitch, just after she had alighted from a Broom-staff: I have been uncivil, and enjoy'd the Governante in most lewd dalliance.

Belf. Jun. Thou art a brave fellow, and makest nothing of it.

Tru. Nothing? 'Sdeath, I had rather have storm'd a *Half-Moon*, I had more pleasure at the Battle of *Mons*.

Belf. Jun. But hast thou done our work as well as hers.

Tru. I have: For after the enjoyment of her person had led me into some familiarity with her, I propos'd, she accepted, for she is Covetous as well as Amorous: and she has so far wrought for us, that we shall have an Interview with our Mistresses; whom, she says, we shall find very inclinable; and she has promis'd this night to deliver 'em into our hands.

Belf. Jun. Thou art a rare friend to me, and to thy self. Now, Farewel all the vanity of this lewd Town, at once I quit it all. Dear Rogue, let's in.

Tru. Come in, in, and dress in your Habit.

Exeunt.

Enter Sir VVilliam, Sir Edward and Scrapeall.

Scrap. Look you Sir *William*, I am glad you like my Niece: and I hope also that she may look lovely in your Sons Eyes.

Sir Edw. No doubt but he will be extremely taken with her: Indeed both she and your Daughter are very Beautiful.

Sir Will. He like her! VVhat's matter whether he like her, or no? Is it not enough for him, that I do? Is a Son, a Boy, a Jackanapes, to have a will of his own? That were to have him be the Father, and me the Son. But indeed they are both very handsome.

Scrap. Let me tell you both, Sir *William*, and Sir *Edward*, Beauty is but Vanity, a meer nothing; but they have that which will not fade; they have Grace.

Sir Edw. They look like pretty spirited witty Girls.

aside.

Scrap. I am sorry I must leave ye so soon: I thought to have bidden ye to dinner, but I am to pay down a sum of Money upon a Mortgage this afternoon: Farewell.

Sir Will. Farewel Mr. *Scrapeall*.

Sir Edw. Pray meet my Brother at my House at Dinner.

Scrap. Thank you Sir *Edward*, I know not but I may.

Sir Edw. The person of this Girl is well chosen for your Son, if she were not so precise and pure.

Sir Will. Prethee, what matter what she is, has she not Fifteen Thousand Pounds clear ?

Sir Edw. For a Husband to differ in Religion from a Wife.

Sir Will. What, with Fifteen Thousand Pound ?

Sir Edw. A precise Wife will think her self so pure, she will be apt to condemn her Husband.

Sir Will. Ay, but Fifteen Thousand Pound, brother.

Sir Edw. You know how intractable misguided Zeal and Spiritual Pride are.

Sir Will. What with Fifteen Thousand Pound !

Sir Edw. I would not willingly my Son should have her.

Sir Will. Not with Fifteen Thousand Pound ?

Sir Edw. I see there's no answer to be given to Fifteen Thousand Pound.

Sir Will. A Pox o' this Godly-Knave, it should have been Twenty.

Sir Edw. Nor would I buy a Wife for my Son.

Sir Will. Not if you could have her a good penny-worth : Your Son, quoth ye ? He is like to make a fine Husband. For all your precious Son—

Sir Edw. Aye, brother ?

Sir Will. Look you, brother, you fly out so: Pray, brother, be not passionate ; passion drowns one parts ; let us calmly reason ; I have Fresh matter ; have but patience, and hear me speak.

Sir Edw. Well, brother, go on ; for I see I might as soon stop a Tyde.

Sir Will. To be calm and patient ; your Jewel, though he deny'd that outrage in *Dorset Court*, yet he committed it, and was last night hurry'd before the Lord Chief Justice for it.

Sir Edw. It cannot be, on my certain knowledge. I cou'd convince him, but it is not time. *aside.*

Sir Will. What a Devil are all the World mistaken, but you ?

Sir Edw. He was with me all the Evening.

Sir Will. Why, he got Bail immediately, and came to you. Ounds I never saw such a man in my life !

Sir Edw. I am assur'd of the contrary.

Sir Will. Death and Hell, you make me stark mad : you will send me to *Bedlam* : You will not believe your own senses : I'll hold you a Thousand Pound.

Sir Edw. Brother, remember passion drowns ones parts.

Sir Will. Well, I am tame, I am cool.

Sir Edw. I'll hold you a hundred ; which is enough for one brother to win of another.

Enter Attorney.

And here's your own Attorney comes opportunely enough to hold stakes. I'll bind it with ten.

Sir Will. Done.

Sir Edw. Why, I saw your man Roger, and he says, your Son found there a Rascal, that went by his Name.

Attor. Oh, Sir William, I am undone, ruin'd, made a miserable man !

Sir Will. What's the matter, man ?

Attor. Tho you have been an exceeding good Clyent to me, I have reason to Curse one of your Family that has ruin'd mine.

Sir Will. Pray explain your self.

Attor. Oh, Sir, your wicked Son, your most Libidinous Son.

Sir Will. Look you, brother, D'ye hear? D'ye hear? Do you Answer?

Attor. Has Corrupted, Debauch'd my only Daughter, whom I had brought up with all the care and charge I cou'd, who was the Hopes, the Joy of all our Family.

Sir Will. Here's a Son! Here's a rare Son! Here's a hopeful Son! And he were mine, I'd lash him with a Dog-whip: I'd cool his Courage.

Sir Edw. How do you know it is he?

Attor. I have a witness of it, that saw her rise from his Bed the other Day Morning: And last Night she ran away to him, and they have lain at a private Lodging.

Sir Edw. Be well assur'd, ere you conclude; for there is a Rascal that has taken my Sons Name, and has swagger'd in and about *White-Friers*, with *Cheatly*, and that Gang of Rogues, whom my Son will take a Course with.

Attor. Oh, Sir, I am too well assur'd: My VVife tears her Hair; and I, for my part shall run distracted.

Sir Will. Oh, wicked Rascal! Oh, my poor *Tim*! my dear Boy *Tim*! I think each Day a Year, till I see thee.

Sir Edw. Sir, I am extremely sorry for this, if it be so; but let me beg of you, play the part of a VVife man; blaze not this Dishonour abroad, and you shall have all the Reparation the case is capable of.

Sir Will. Reparation, for making his Daughter a VVhore! VVhat, a Pox, can he give her her Maiden-head again?

Sir Edw. Money, which shall not be wanting, will stop that VVitnesses Mouth: And I will give your Daughter such a Fortune, that were what you believe true and publicly known, she shou'd live above Contempt, as the VVorld goes now.

Attor. You speak like the worthy Gentleman the VVorld thinks you; but there can be no Salve for this Sore.

Sir Will. VVhy, you are enough to damn Forty Sons, if you had them; you encourage them to VVhore: You are fit to beed up youth!

Sir Edw. You are mad: But pray Sir, let me intreat you to go home, and I will wait upon you; and we will consult how to make the best of this misfortune, in which I assure you, I have a great share.

Attor. I will submit to your wife Advice, Sir: My grief had made me forget; here is a Letter comes out of the Country for you. *Ex. Attorney.*

Sir Will. For me! 'Tis welcome: Now for News from my dear Boy! Now you shall hear, Brother: He is a Son indeed.

Sir Edw. Yes, a very hopeful one: I will not undeceive him, till Ned has try'd once more to recover him. *aside.*

Sir Will. reads. On the tenth of this Month, your Son, my young Master, about two of the Clock in the Morning, rode out with his Man *Lolpoop*; and notwithstanding all the search and enquiry we can make (Oh Heav'n) he cannot be found or heard of.

He drops the Letter not able to hold it.

Sir Edw. How's this?

Sir Will. Oh, my poor Boy ! He is Robb'd and Murder'd, and buried in some Ditch, or flung into some Pond. Oh, I shall never see thee more, dear Tim ! The Joy, and the Support of all my Life ! The only Comfort which I had on earth.

Sir Edw. Have patience Brother ; 'tis nothing but a little Ramble in your Absence.

Sir Will. Oh, no ; he durst not Ramble : He was the ducifullest Child ! I shall never see his Face again : Look you, he goes on. We have search'd and made enquiry in three Adjacent Counties, and no Tidings can be heard of him. What have I done, that Heav'n should thus Afflict me ?

Sir Edw. What, if after all, this Son should be he that has made all this noise in *White Friars*, for which mine has been so blam'd ?

Sir Will. My Son, my Son play such Pranks ? that's likely ! One so strictly, so soberly Educated ! One that's Educated your way cannot do otherwise.

Enter Roger.

Roger. Sir, Sir, Sir, mercy upon me, here's my young Masters Man *Lolpoop*, coming along in the Streets with a wench.

Enter Lolpoop leading Betty under the Arm.

Sir Will. Oh Heaven ! What say you ?

Sir Edw. Now it works : Ha ha ha.

Betty. How now ! What have you to say to my Friend, my Dear ?

To himself.

Sir William lays hold on Lolpoop e're he or she sees him.

Sir William and Lolpoop start, and stand amaz'd at one another ; and after a great pause, Sir William falls upon Lolpoop, beats the whore, beats Roger, strikes at his Brother, and lays about him like a mad man ; the Rabble get all about him.

Sir Will. Sirrah, Rogue, Dog, Villain ! Whore ! And you Rogue, Rogue ! Confound the World ! Oh that the World were all on fire.

Sir Edw. Brother, for shame be more temperate : Are you a mad man ?

Sir Will. Plague o' your dull Philosophy.

Sir Edw. The Rabble are gather'd together about you.

Sir Will. Villain, Rogue, Dog, Toad, Serpent ! Where's my Son ? Sirrah, you have Robb'd him, and murder'd him.

He beats Lolpoop, who roars out Murder.

Lolp. Hold, hold, your son is alive, and alive like : He's in *London*.

Sir Will. What say you, Sirrah ? In *London* ? and is he well ? Thanks be to Heaven for that : where is he Sirrah ?

Lolp. He is in *White-Friars*, with Mr. *Cheatly*, his Cousin *Shamwel*, and Captain *Hackum*.

Sir William pauses, as amaz'd : Then beats him again.

Sir Will. And you Rogue, you damn'd Dog, would you suffer him to keep such Company, and commit such villanous Actions ?

Lolp. Hold, hold, hold, I pray you, Sir. I am but a Servant, how cou'd I help it Marry ?

Sir Will. You cou'd not help being with a Whore your self; *Sirrah, Sirrah, Sirrah.* Here honest Mob, course this Whore to some purpose. A Whore, a Whore, a Whore.

She runs out, the Rabble run after, and tear her, crying, a VVhore, a VVhore.

Sir Edw. This is wisely done! If they murder her, you'll be hang'd: I am in Commission for *Middlesex*; I must see to appease them.

Sir VVill. *Sirrah*, Rogue, bring me to my Son instantly, or I'll cut your Throat.

Exit.

Enter Isabella, Terefia, Ruth.

Isab. Dear *Ruth*, thou dost for ever oblige us.

Teref. And so much, that none but our own Mothers cou'd ever do it more.

Ruth. Oblige your selves, and be not silly, coy, and nice: Strike me when the Iron's hot, I say. They have great Estates, and are both Friends, I know both their Families and Conditions.

Enter Belfond Jun. and Truman.

Here they are: Welcom Friends.

Tru. How dost thou?

Ruth. These are the Damsels, I will retire, and watch, lest the old Man surprize us.

Exit Ruth.

Belf. Jun. Look thee, *Isabella*, I come to confer with thee, in a matter which concerneth us both, if thou be'st free.

Isab. Friend, 'tis like I am.

Tru. And mine with thee is of the same nature.

Teref. Proceed.

Belf. Jun. Something within me whispereth, that we were made as helps for one another.

Teref. They act very well, Cousin.

Isab. For young beginners. Come, leave off your *Canaanish* Dialect, and talk like the Inhabiters of this World.

Teref. We are as errant Hypocrites as the best of you.

Isab. We were bred otherwise than you see, and are able to hear you talk like Gentlemen.

Teref. You come to our Meeting like Sparks and Beaux, and I never cou'd perceive much Devotion in you.

Isab. 'Tis such a pain to dissemble, that I am resolv'd I'll never do it, but when I must.

Belf. Jun. Dear Madam, I cou'd wish all forms were laid aside betwixt us: But in short, I am most infinitely in Love with you, and must be for ever miserable if I go without you.

Isab. A frank and hearty Declaration, which you make with so much confidence, I warrant you have been us'd to it.

Tru. There is not a difficulty in the VVorld which I would stop at to obtain your Love, the only thing on Earth cou'd make me happy.

Teref. And you are as much in earnest now, as you were when you came first to us even now.

Isab. That's well urg'd: Cannot you Gentlemen counterfeit Love, as well as Religion?

Belf. Jun. Love is so Natural, it cannot be affected.

Tru. To show mine is so, take me at my word: I am ready to render on discretion.

Teref. And was this the reason you frequented our Parish-Church?

Belf. Jun. Cou'd you think our Business was to hear your Teacher spin out an hour, over a Velvet Cushion?

Isab. Prophane men! I warrant they came to Ogle.

Tru. Even so: Our Eyes might tell you what we came for.

Belf. Jun. In short, dear Madam, our opportunities are like to be so few, your confinement being so close, that 'tis fit to make use of this; 'tis not your Fortune which I aim at, my Uncle will make a settlement equal to it, were it more; but 'tis your Charming Person,

Isab. And you wou'd have me a fine forward Lady, to love *Extempore*.

Belf. Jun. Madam, you have but few minutes to make use of, and therefore shou'd improve those few: Your Uncle has sold you for 5000*l.* and for ought I know, you have not this night good for your deliverance.

Tru. Consider, Ladies, if you had not better trust a couple of honest Gentlemen, than an old Man, that makes his market of you: For I can tell you, you tho his own Daughter, are to be sold too.

Teref. But for all that, our consents are to be had.

Belf. Jun. You can look for nothing, but a more strict confinement, which must follow your Refusal: Now, if you have the Courage to venture an Escape, we are the Knights that will relieve you.

Tru. I have an Estate Madam, equal to your Fortune: But I have nothing can deserve your Love: But I'll procure your freedom, then use it as you please.

Belf. Jun. If you are unwilling to trust us, you can trust your Governess, whom you shall have with you.

Isab. And what wou'd you and the world say of us for this?

Belf. Jun. VVe shou'd adore you: And I am apt to think the VWorld wou'd not condemn your choice.

Tru. But I am sure, all the VWorld will condemn your delay, in the condition you are in.

Enter Ruth.

Ruth. I see Mr. *Scrapeall* coming at the end of the Street: Begone, I'll bring them to your Chamber in the *Temple*, this Evening. Hast, hast out at the Back-door.

Belf. Jun. This is most unfortunate.

Tru. Dear Madam, let me Seal my Vows.

Ruth. Go, go: begon, begon Friends.

Exeunt.

Enter Scrapeall, crossis the Stage; Enter Mrs. Termagant and her Brother.

Term. You see, Brother, we have dogg'd *Belfond*, till we saw him enter the House of this Scrivener with his Friend *Truman*, both in disguises; which with what we have heard even now, at the neighbouring Alehouse, convinces me, that 'tis he is to marry the rich Neice.

Bro. They say she is to be Marry'd to the Son of Sir *William Belfond*, and that Sir *William* gives a great sum of Mony to her Uncle for her; by this it should seem to be the Elder Son, and not our Enemy, who is design'd for her;

Term. If so, the Villain would not at full day go thither.

Bro.

Bro. But 'tis in a disguise.

Term. VVith that, I suppose the Son pretends to be a Puritan too, or she would not have him; it must be he. And if you will do as I direct you, I warrant I'll break off this Match; and by that work a Exquisite piece of Revenge.

Bro. I am wholly at your dispose.

Term. Now is the time, the Door opens; pursue me with a drawn Dagger, with all the seeming Fury imaginable, now as the Old Man comes out.

Scrapeall passes over the Stage. Brother pursues her with a drawn Dagger, she runs and gets into the House, and claps the Door after her.

Bro. Where is the Jade? Deliver her to me, I'll cut her in piece meal: Deliver her, I say: Well, you will not deliver her; I shall watch her.

Enter within, Ruth, Teresa, Isabella, Mrs. Termagant.

Term. Oh, Oh! Where is the Murderer? Where is he? I die with fear, I die.

Ruth. Prithce, Woman, Comfort thy self, no Man shall hurt thee here. Take a Sup of this Bottle,

She pulls out a Silver Strong Water-Bottle.

Term. Thou art safe.

Isab. We will defend thee here, as in a Castle. But what is the occasion of this Man's fury?

Term. You are so generous, in giving me this Succour, and promising my defence, that I am resolv'd not to conceal it from you: Tho' I must confess, I have no reason to boast of it; but I hope your Charity will interpret it as well as you can on my side.

Ruth. Go on thou need'st not fear.

Term. Know then, I am a Gentlewoman, whose Parents dying when I was sixteen, left me a moderate Fortune, yet able to maintain me like their Daughter. I chose an Aunt to be my Gaurdian, one of those Jolly Widows who love Gaming, and have great resort in the Evenings, at their Houses.

Ruth. Good: Proceed.

Term. There it was my misfortune to be acquainted with a young Gentleman, whose Face, Air, Mein, Shape, Wit, and Breeding, not I alone but the whole Town Admires.

Ruth. Very good.

Term. By all his Looks, his Gestures, and Addresies, he seem'd in Love with me: The Joy that I conceiv'd at this, I wanted Cunning to conceal, but he must needs perceive it flash in my Eyes, and kindle in my Face; he soon began to Court me in such sweet, such Charming Words, as wou'd betray a more experienc'd Heart than mine.

Ruth. Humh: very well; she speaks notably.

Term. There was but little left for him to do, for I had done it all before for him: He had a Friend within too ready to give up the Fort; yet I held out as long as I could make defence.

Ruth. Good lack a day! Some men have strange Charms, it is confess'd.

Term. Yet I was safe by solemn mutual Oaths, in private contracted: He wou'd have it private, because he fear'd to offend an Uncle, from whom he had great expectance; but now came all my Misery.

Ruth. Alack, Alack, I warrant he was false.

Term.

Term. False as a Crocodile: He watch'd the fatal Minute, and he found it, and greedily seiz'd upon me, when I trusted to his Honour and his Oaths; he still swore on, that he wou'd Marry me, and I sinned on. In short, I had a Daughter by him, now three years old, as true a Copy as e're Nature drew, Beauteous, and Witty, to a Miracle.

Ruth. Nay, Men are faithless, I can speak it.

Teref. Poor Lady; I am strangely concern'd for her.

Isab. She was a Fool, to be catch'd in so common a Snare.

Term. From time to time he swore he would Marry me; though I must think I am his Wife as much as any Priest can make me; but still he found Excuses about his Uncle. I wou'd have patiently waited till his Uncles Death, had he been true, but he has thrown me off, abandon'd me, without so much as a pretended Crime.

Ruth. Alack, and well-a-day! It makes me weep.

Term. But 'tis for an Attorneys Daughter, whom he keeps and now is fond of, while he treats me with all contempt and hatred.

Isab. Tho she was a Fool, yet he's a base inhumane Fellow.

Teref. To scorn and hate her, for her Love to him.

Term. By this means, my Dishonour, which had been yet conceal'd, became so publick, my Brother coming from the Wars of Hungary, has heard all, has this day fought with the Author of my Misery, but was disarm'd; and now by Accident he spy'd me by your House, I having fled the place where I had lodg'd, for fear of him; and here the Bloody Man would have kill'd me, for the dishonour done to his Family, which never yet was Blemisht.

Ruth. Get the Chief Justices Warrant, and bind him to the Peace.

Teref. She tells her story well.

Isab. 'Tis a very odd one; but she expresses it so sensible, I cannot but believe her.

Term. If they do not ask me who this is, I have told my Tale in vain. Now, Ladies, I hope you have Charity enough to pardon the weakness of a poor young Woman, who suffers shame enough within.

Teref. We shall be glad to do you what kindness we can.

Term. Oh, had you seen this most bewitching person, so Beautiful, Witty, and well bred, and full of most Gentleman-like Qualities, you would be the readier to have Compassion on me.

Isab. Pray, who is it?

Term. Alas, 'tis no secret, it is *Belfond*, who calls Sir *Edward Belfond* Father, but is his Nephew.

Isab. What do I hear? Was ever Woman so unfortunate as I, in her first Love.

Teref. 'Tis most unlucky.

Term. That is the Niece: I see 'twas he who was to Marry her.

Isab. But I am glad I have thus early heard it: I'll never see his face more.

Ruth. All this is false: He is a Pious man, and true Professor. This vile Woman will break the Match off, and undo my hopes.

Term. 'Tis as I thought. He is a Ranting Blade, a Royster of the Town.

Ruth.

Ruth. Come, you are an idle Woman and belye him, be gone out of the doors; there's the back-way, you need not pretend fear of your Brother.

Term. I am oblig'd enough in the present defence you gave me: I intended not to trouble you long; but Heaven can witness what I say is true.

Isab. Do you hear Cousin! 'tis most certain, I'll never see him.

Ruth. Go, wicked Woman, go, what evil spirit sent thee hither?—I say be gone.

Term. I go. I care not what she says, it works where I would have it. Your
Servant Ladies. *Exit.*

Ruth. Go, go, thou wicked Slanderer.

Teref. See him but once, to hear what he can say in his Defence.

Isab. Yes, to hear him lye, as all the Sex will: Perswade me not; I am fix'd.

Ruth. Look thee, *Isabella*.

Isab. I am resolv'd.

Exit Isabella hastily.

Teref. Dear *Ruth*, thou dearest Friend, whom once we took for our most cruel Gaoler, let's follow, and help me to convince her of her Error; but I am resolv'd, if she be stubborn, to undo her self, she shall not ruine me: I will escape.

Ruth. Let us perswade her:

Exeunt.

Enter Belfond Senior, and Hackum.

Belf. Sen. Captain, call all my Servants, why don't they wait?

Enter Margaret, and Mrs. Hackum with a Cawdle.

Oh, my pure Blowing, my Convenient, my Tackle!

Marg. How dost thou, my dear?

Mrs. Hack. I have brought you a Cawdle here; there's Amber-greece in it, 'tis a rare refreshing, strengthening thing.

Belf. Sen. What, adad, you take me for a Bride-groom; Iicorn a Cawdle, give me some Cherry Brandy, Ple drink her Health in a Bumper: Do thee eat this, Child.

Mrs. Hack. I have that at hand—here, Sir.

She fetches the Brandy.

Enter Captain Hackum, and Servants.

Belf. Sen. Come, my dear *Natural*, here's a Bumper of Cherry-brandy to thy Health; but first let me kiss thee, my dear Rogue.

Enter Sir William.

Sir Will. Some Thunderbolt light on my Head; what's this I see?

Belf. Sen. My Father!

Enter Cheatly and Shamwell.

Sir Will. Hey, here's the whole Kennel of Hell-hounds.

Cheat. Bear up to him, bow, wow.

Sham. Do not flinch, bow, wow.

Belf. Sen. Bow, wow, Bow, wow:

Sir Will. Most impudent abandon'd Rascal; let me go, let me come at him; audacious Varlet, how durst thou look on me?

He endeavours to fly at his Son, Footmen hold him.

Belf. Sen. Go strike your Dogs, and call them names, you have nothing to do with me, I am of full Age; and I thank Heaven, am gotten loose from your Yoak, don't think to put upon me, I'll be kept no longer like a *Prigster*, a silly *Country Put*, fit for nothing but to be a *Bubble*, a *Caravan*, or so.

Sine

Sir Will. A most perfect downright Canting Rogue; am I not your Father, Sirrah? Sirrah, am I not.

Belf. Sen. Yes, and Tenant for life to my Estate in Tail, and I'll look to you, that you commit no waste; what a Pox, did you think to Nose me for ever as the saying is? I am not so *dark* neither, I am *sharp*, *sharp* as a *Needle*, I can *smoak* now, as soon as another.

Sir Will. Let me come at him.

Cheat. So long as you forbear all Violence you are safe; but if you strike here, we command the *Fryers*, and we will raise the *Posse*.

Sir Will. O Villain! Thou notorious undoer of young Heirs: And thou pernicious Wretch, thou art no part of me; have I from thy first swadling nourish'd thee and bred thee up with care.

Belf. Sen. Yes, with care to keep your Money from me, and bred me in the greatest Ignorance, fit for your Slave, and not your Son, I had been finely *dark* if I had staid at home.

Sir Will. VVere you not Educated like a Gentleman.

Belf. Sen. No like a *Grafter*, or a *Butcher*; if I had staid in the Country, I had never seen such a *Nab*, a rum Nab, such a Modish *Perker*, such spruce and neat Accoutrements; here is a *Tattle*, here's a *Famble*, and here's the *Cole*, the *Ready*, the *Rhino*, the *Darby*; I have a lusty *Cod* Old *Prig*, I'd have thee know, and am very *Rhinocerical*, here are *Meggs* and *Smelts* good store, *Decuses* and *Georges*, the Land is Entail'd, and I will have my *snack* of it while I am young, adad, I will. Hah!

Sir Will. Some Mountain cover me, and hide my shame for ever from the VVorld; did I not beget thee, Rogue?

Belf. Sen. VVhat know I whether you did or not? But 'twas not to use me like a Slave, but I am sharp and smoaky; I had been purely bred, had I been Rul'd by you, I should never have known these worthy Ingenious Gentlemen, my dear Friends, all this fine Language had been Heathen Greek to me, and I had ne'r been able to have cut a *Sham* or *Banter* while I had liv'd, adad: Odlook-ers, I know my self, and will have nothing to do with you.

Sir Will. I am astonish'd!

Belf. Sen. Shall my younger Brother keep his Coach and Equipage, and shine like a *Spruce* Prigg, and I be your *Bayly* in the Country? Hi, *La Mar*; bid my Coach be ready at the Door; I'll make him know I am elder Brother, and I will have the *Setter* Liveries, and I am resolv'd to *manage* my *Natural*, my *pure* *Blowing*, my *Convenient*, my *Peculiar*, my *Tackle*, my *Purest* *Pure*, as the rest of the young Gentlemen of the Town do,

Sir Will. A most confirm'd Alsatian Rogue!
Thou most ungracious VVretch to break off from me, at such a time, when I had provided a VVife for you, a Pretty Young Lady, with fifteen thousand Pound down, have settled a great Jointure upon her, and a large Estate in Present on you, the VVritings all sealed, and nothing wanting but you, whom I had sent for Post out of the Country to marry her!

Belf. Sen. Very likely, that you, who have cudgel'd me from my Cradle, and made me your Slave, and grutch'd me a Crown in my Pocket, should do all this.

Cheat

Cheat. Believe him not; there's not one word of Truth in't.

Sham. This is a Trick to get you in his Power.

Sir Will. The Writings are all at my Attorneys in the Temple; you may go with me, and see 'em all; and if you will comply, I'll pardon what is past, and marry you.

Belf. Sen. No, no, I am *sharp*, as I told you, and *smooth*; you shall not put upon me, I understand your shams; but to talk fairly, in all occurrences of this Nature, which either may, or may not be, according to the different accidents which often intervene upon several opportunities, from whence we may collect either Good or Bad, according to the nature of the things themselves; and forasmuch as whether they be good or bad concerns only the Understanding, so far forth as it employs its Faculties: Now since all this is premised, let us come to the matter in hand.

Sir Will. Prodigious Impudence! O Devil! I'll to my Lord Chief Justice, and with his Tip-staff I'll do your Business, Rogues, Dogs and Villains, I will.

Ex it in a Fury.

Cheat. This was bravely carry'd on.

Sham. Most admirably.

Belf. Sen. Ay, was't not? Don't I begin to *Banter* pretty well? ha!

Cheat. Rarely: But a word in private, my resplendent *Prig*. You see your Father resolves to put some Trick upon you; be beforehand with him, and marry this Fortune I have prepar'd; Lose no time but see her, and treat with her, if you like her, as soon as you can.

Belf. Sen. You are in the right; let not my *Blowing* hear a word; I'll to her instantly.

Cheat. *Shammel* and I'll go and prepare her for a Visit; you know the place.

Belf. Sen. I do, come along ——— *Exeunt.*

Enter Cheatly, Shamwel, and Mrs. Termagant, in her fine Lodgings:

Cheat. Madam, you must carry your self somewhat Stately, but Curteously, to the Bubble.

Sham. Somewhat reserv'dly, and yet so as to give him hopes.

Term. I warrant you, let me alone; and if I effect this business, you are the best Friends; such Friends as I could never yet expect: 'Twill be an exquisite Revenge.

Cheat. He comes! Come Noble Esquire,

Enter Belfond Senior.

Madam, this is the Gentleman whom I would recommend to your Ladyships Favour, who is ambitious of kissing your Hand.

Belf. Sen. Yes, Madam, as Mr. *Cheatly* says, I am ambitious of kissing your Hand, and your Lip too, Madam; for I vow to Gad, Madam, there is not a Person in the World, Madam, has a greater honour for your Person: And, Madam, I assure you I am a Person ———

Term. My good Friend, Mr. *Cheatly*, with whom I intrust the Management of my small Fortune ———

Cheat. Small Fortune! nay it is a large one ———

Term. Has told me of your Family and Character, To your Name I am no Stranger, nor to your Estate, though this is the first time I have had the honour to see your Person.

H

Belf.

Belf. Sen. Hold, good Madam, the Honour lies on my side ; she's a rare Lady, ten times handfomer than my *Blowings* : (And here's a Lodging and Furniture for a Queen !) Madam, if your Ladyship please to accept of my Affection in an honourable way, you shall find I am no *Putt*, no *Country Prigster*, nor shall ever want the *Megs*, the *Smelts*, *Decuses* and *Georges*, the *Ready* and the *Rhino* : I am *Rhinocercical*.

Term. I want nothing Sir, Heaven be thanked.

Sham. Her worst Servants eat in Plate ; and her Maids have all Silver Chamber-pots.

Belf. Sen. Madam, I beg your Pardon, I am somewhat Bowtie ; I have been drinking *Bumpers* and *Facers* till I am almost *Clear* : I have 3000*l.* a year, and 20000 Pounds-worth of *VWood*, which I can turn into *Cole* and *Ready*, and my Estate ne'er the worse ; there's only the incumbrance of an Old Fellow upon it, and I shall break his Heart suddenly.

Term. This is a weighty matter, and requires advice : nor is it a sudden work to persuade my Heart to Love. I have my choice of *Fortunes*.

Belf. Sen. Very like Madam : But Mr. *Cheatly* and my Cousin *Shamwell* can tell you that my Occasions require haste, dee dee ! and therefore I desire you to resolve as soon as conveniently you can.

Cheat. VWhat's this I hear ?

A Noise of a Tumult without and blowing of a Horn.

Sham. They are up in the *Friers* ; Pray Heaven the Sheriffs Officers be not come.

Cheat. 'Slife, 'tis so ; shift for your selves ; Squire, let me conduct you — This is your wicked Father with Officers.

Exit.

Cry without, The Tip-staff, an Arrest, an Arrest ; and the Horn Blows.

Enter Sir William Belfond, and a Tip-staff, with the Constable and his Watch-men ; and against them the posse of the Friers drawn up, Bankrupts hurrying to escape.

Sir Will. Are you mad to resist the Tipstaff, the Kings Authority ?

They cry out, an Arrest. Several flock to 'em with all sorts of weapons. Women with Fire-Forks, Spits, Paring-shovels, &c.

Enter Cheatly, Shamwell, Belfond Sen. and Hackum.

Cheat. VVe are too strong for 'em : Stand your ground.

Sir Will. VVe demand that same Squire, Cheatly, Shamwell, and Bully Hackum ; Deliver them up, and all the rest of you are safe.

Hack. Not a Man.

Sir will. Nay then, have at you.

Tip-st. I charge you in the Kings Name, all to assist me.

Rabble. Fall on.

Cheat. Come on thou wicked Author of this Broil. You are our Prisoner.

Sir Will. Let me go, Rogue.

Sham. Now we have you in the Temple, we'll shew you the Pump first ;

Sir Will. Dogs, Rogues, Villains.

Sham. To the Pump, to the Pump.

Hack. Pump him, Pump him.

Rabble beat the Constable, and the rest run into the Temple. Tip-staff runs away. They take Sir VVilliam Prisoner.

Belf.

Belf. Sen. Ah, Pump him, Pump him, Old Prigg!

Rabb. Pump, Pump, to the Pump; Huzza!

Enter Belfond Junior, Truman, and several Gentlemen, Porter of the Temple, and Belfonds Footman.

Belf. Jun. VVhat's the matter here?

Trum. The Rabble have catcht a Bailiff.

Belf. Jun. Death and Hell, 'tis my Father; 'tis a Gentleman, my Father. Gentlemen, I beseech you lend me your hands to his Rescue.

Trum. Come on, Rascals: Have we caught you? VVe'll make you an Example.

Belf. Jun. Here! where are the Officers of the Temple? Porter, do you shut the Gates into VVhite-Friers.

Port. I will Sir,

Belf. Jun. Here's a Guinea among ye. See these three Rogues well Pumpt, and let 'em go through the whole Course.

Cheat. Hold, hold, I am a Gentleman.

Sham. I am your Cousin.

Hack. Hold, hold, Scoundrel, I am a Captain.

Belf. Jun. Away with 'em.

Sir Will. Away with 'em. Dear Son, I am infinitely oblig'd to you: I ask your Pardon for all that I have said against you: I have wrong'd you.

Belf. Jun. Good Sir, reflect not on that; I am resolv'd, e'er I have done, to deserve your good word.

Sir VVill. 'Twas ill Fortune, we have missed my most ungracious Rebel, that Monster of Villany.

Belf. Jun. Let me alone with him Sir, upon my Honour I will deliver him safe this Night. But now let us see the Execution.

Sir VVill. Dear Ned, you bring Tears into my Eyes. Let me embrace thee, my only Comfort now.

Belf. Jun. Good Sir, let's on and see the Justice of this place.

Exeunt.

ACT. V. SCENE I.

Enter Cheatly, Shamwel, Hackum.

Cheat. O Unmerciful Dogs! VVere ever Gentlemen used thus before? I am drencht into a Quartan Ague.

Sham. My Limbs are stiff and numb'd all over: But where I am beaten and bruised, there I have some Sense left.

Hack. Dry Blows I could have born magnanimously; but to be made such a Sop of—— Besides, I have had the worst of it, by wearing my own Hair: to be shav'd all on one side, and with a Lather made of Channel-dirt, instead of a

H 2

Wash,

Wash-ball : I have lost half the best Head of Hair in the Friers ; and a Whisker worth Fifty Pound in its Intrinsic value to a Commander.

Cheat. Indeed your Magnanimous Phyz is somewhat disfigur'd by it, Captain.

Sham. Your Military Countenance has lost much of its Ornament.

Hack. I am as disconsolate as a Bee that has lost his Sting ; the other Moity of Whisker must follow : Then all the terror of my Face is gone ; that Face that us'd to fright young Priggs into Submission. I shall now look but like an Ordinary Man.

Cheat. We'll swinge these Rogues with Indictments for a Riot, and with Actions *Sans Nombre*.

Sham. What Reparation will that be ? I am a Gentleman, and can never shew my Face among my Kindred more.

Cheat. We that can shew our Faces after what we have done, may well shew 'em after what we have suffered. Great Souls are above Ordinances, and never can be Slaves to Fame.

Hack. My Honor is tender, and this one Affront will cost me at least five Murders.

Cheat. Let's not prate and shiver in cold Fits here ; but call your Wife with the Cherry-Brandy, and let's ask after the Squire : If they have taken him, 'tis the worst part of the Story.

Hack. No, I saw the Squire run into the Friers at first. But I'll go fetch some Cherry-Brandy, and that will comfort us.

Here's the Bottle, let's drink by word of Mouth,

Steps in for Brandy.

Cheat. Your Cherry-Brandy is most sovereign and edifying.

Drinks.

Sham. Most exceeding comfortable after our *Temple-pickling*.

Cheatly drinks.

Cheat. A Fish has a damn'd life on't ; I shall have that Aversion to Water after this — that I shall scarce ever be cleanly enough to wash my Face again.

Hack. VVell ! I'll to the Barbers and get my self shav'd ; then go to the Squire, and be new Accoutered.

Exit Hack.

Cheat. Dear *Shamwel*, we must not for a little Affliction forget our main Business ; our Caravan must be well manag'd : He is now drunk, and when he wakes, will be very fit to be married. Mrs. *Termagant* has given us a Judgment of 2000*l.* upon that Condition.

Sham. The sooner we dispose of him, the better ; for all his Kindred are bent to retrieve him ; and the Temple joyning in the War against us, will be too hard for us ; so that we must make what we can of him immediately.

Cheat. If he should be once cool, or irresolute, we have lost him, and all our hopes ; but when we have sufficiently dipt him, as we shall by this Marriage and her Judgment, he is our own for ever.

Sham. But what shall we do for our *White-Friers Chaplain*, our *Alsatian Divine* ? I was in search of him before our late Misfortune, and the Rogue is hol'd somewhere, I could not find him, and we are undone without him.

Cheat. 'Tis true ; pray go instantly and find him out ; he dares not stir out of this Covert ; beat it well all over for him ; you'll find him tappes'd in some Ale-house, Bawdy-house, or Brandy-shop.

Sham. He's a brave swinging Orthodox, and will Marry any Couple at any time ;

time; he defies Licence and Canonical Hours, and all those foolish Ceremonies;

Cheat. Pr'ithe look after him, while I go to prepare the Lady.

Sham. You Rogue, *Cheatly*, you have a loving Design upon her; you will go to twelve with the Squire: If you do, I will have my snack.

Cheat. Go, go, you are a Wag.

Exeunt severally.

Enter Ruth, Belfond Junior, and Truman at Scrapehall's House.

Ruth. She told her tale so Passionately, that *Isabella* believes every word of it; and is resolv'd, as she says never to see thee more.

Belf. Jun. Oh, this most malicious and most infamous of her Sex; there is not the least truth in her Accusation.

Tru. That to my Knowledge, he is not a Man of those principles.

Ruth. I will send them to you, if I can; and in the mean time be upon the Watch.

Tru. Take this Writing with thee; which is a Bond from us, to make good our Agreement with thee.

Ruth. 'Tis well, and still I doubt not to perform my part.

Exit.

Belf. Jun. Was ever man plagu'd with a Wench like me? Well, say what they will, the Life of a Whore-master is a foolish, restless, anxious life; and there's an end on't. What can be done with this Malicious Devil? a Man cannot offer violence to a Woman.

Tru. Steal away her Child, and then you may awe her.

Belf. Jun. I have Emisseries abroad, to find out the Child; but she'll Sacrifice that, and all the World, to her Revenge.

Tru. You must Arrest her upon a Swinging Action, which she cannot get Bayl for, and keep her till she is humbled.

Enter Teresa.

Madam, I kiss your hands.

Teres. You have done well, Mr. *Belfond*: Here has been a Lady, whom you have had a Child by, were contracted to, and have deserted, for an Attorney's Daughter which you keep; my Cousin says she will never see you more.

Belf. Jun. If this be true, Madam, I deserve never to see her more; which would be worse than Death to me.

Teres. I have prevailed with her once more to see you, and hear what you can say to this: Come, come, Cousin.

She leads in Isab.

Look you, Cousin, Mr. *Belfond* denies all this matter.

Isab. I never doubted that: but certainly it is impossible to counterfeit so lively as she did.

Belf. Jun. Heaven is my Witness, that her Accusation is false; I never was yet contracted to any Woman, nor made the least promise, or give any one the least hope of it; and if I do not demonstrate my innocence to you, I will be content for ever to be debarr'd the sight of you, more priz'd by me than Liberty, or Life.

Isab. And yet perhaps these very words were said to her.

Tru. Madam, you have not time, if you value your own Liberty, to argue any longer: We will carry you to Sir *Edward Belfond's*, his Sister is his House-keeper, and there you may be entertain'd with safety of your Honour.

Teres.

Teres. He is esteem'd a worthy Gentleman; nor could we chuse a better Guardian.

Isab. At least how could you use a VVoman ill you had a Child by.

Belf. Jun. Not all the Malice of Mankind can equal hers. I have been frail, I must confess, as others; and though I have provided for her and her Child, yet every day she does me all the most outrageous mischief she can possibly conceive; but this has touch'd me in the tenderest point.

Isab. 'Twould be much for my Honour, to put my self into the hands of a known VVencher.

Belf. Jun. Into the hands of one, who has abandon'd all the thoughts of Vice and Folly for you.

Tru. Besides, Madam, you neither of you trust us; your Governess is with you; and yet we are ready to make good our words by the assistance of the Parson.

Teres. That's another point: But I'm sure, Cousin, there is no dallying about our Liberty: if you be in love with your Jayl, stay; I, for my part, am resolv'd to go.

Belf. Jun. My Uncle's a vertuous honourable Man; my Aunt, his Sister, a Lady of great Piety: think if you will not be safer there, than with your Uncle, by whom you are sold for 5000*l.* to my knowledge, to one who is the most debauch'd dissolute Fellow this day in *London*.

Teres. Liberty, liberty, I say; I'll trust my self, and my Governess.

Enter Ruth.

Ruth. Haste, and agree: Your Father has sent to have Supper ready in less than half an hour.

Teres. Away, away; I am ready; Cousin, farewell.

Belf. Jun. For Heavens sake, Madam, on my Knees I beg you to make use of this occasion, or you have lost your self; and I too shall for ever lose you for Marriage; which alone can keep me from being the most miserable: you may advise, and all things shall be clear'd up to your wish.

Teres. Farewel, Dear Cousin: let's kiss at parting.

Isab. Sure thou hast not the Conscience; thou wilt not leave me?

Teres. By my Troth but I will.

Isab. By my troth but you shall not: for I'll go with thee.

Belf. Jun. May all the joys of Life for ever wait on you.

Ruth. Haste! haste! be gone——

Exeunt.

Enter Sir William Belfond.

Sir Will. That I should live to this unhappy Age! to see the Fruit of all my hopes thus blasted: How long, like Chimists, have I watch'd and toil'd? and in the minute when I expected to have seen projection, all is blown up in Fumo.

Enter Sir Edward.

Brother! I am asham'd to look on you, my disappointment is so great. Oh! this most wicked Recreant! this perverse and infamous Son.

Sir Edw. Brother, a wise man is never disappointed. Mans Life is like a Game at Tables; if at any time the Cast you most shall need does not come up, let that which comes instead of it be mended by your play.

Sir

Sir Will. How different have been our Fates? I left the pleasures of the Town to Marry, which was no small Bondage, had Children, which brought more care upon me: For their sakes I liv'd a rustick, painful, hard, severe, and melancholy Life: Morose, inhospitable, sparing even necessaries: Tenacious, even to griping, for their good: My Neighbours shun me, my Friends neglected me, my Children hate me, and wish my Death: Nay, this wicked Son in whom I have set up my Rest, and principally for whose good I thus had liv'd, has now defeated all my hopes.

Sir Edw. 'Twas your own choice: you would not learn from others.

Sir Will. You have liv'd ever at ease, indulg'd all Pleasures, and melted down your time in daily Feasts, and in continual Revels: Gentle, Complaisant, Affable, and Liberal, and at great expence: The World speaks well of you, Mankind embrace you; your Son loves you, and wishes your Life as much as he can do his own. But I'll perplex my self no more: I look upon this Rascal as an Excrement, a Ven, or Gangreen'd Limb, lopt off.

Sir Edw. But I look on him as a Dislocated one, and get him set again: By this time you see, Severity will do nothing, entice him back to you by love. In short, give him Liberty and a good Allowance: There now remains no other way to reclaim him; for like a Stone-horse broke in among the Mares, no Fence hereafter will contain him.

Sir Will. Brother, I look upon you as a true Friend, that would not insult upon my Folly and Presumption, and confess you are nearer to the right than I: Your Son I hope will be a Comfort to me.

Sir Edw. I doubt it not; but consider, if you do not reconcile your self, and reclaim yours as I tell you, you lop off the Paternal Estate, which is all entail'd for ever upon your Family: For, in the Course he is, the Reversion will be gone in your Life time.

Enter Belfond Jun. Truman, Isabella, Teresia, and Ruth.

Belf. Jun. Here are my Father and my Uncle: Mask your selves, Ladies; you must not yet discover who you are.

Sir Edw. Yonder's Ned, and his Friend, with Ladies Mask'd: Who shou'd they be.

Sir Will. Whores, Whores, what should they be else? Here's a Comfortable Sight again! He is incorrigible,

Sir Edw. 'Tis you that are incorrigible: How ready are you with your Censures!

Belf. Jun. Sir, pardon the freedom I use with you; I humbly desire protection for these Ladies in your House: They are Women of Honour, I do assure you, and desire to be conceal'd for some small time; an Hour hence I will discover all to you, and you will then approve of what I do.

Sir Edw. Dear Ned, I will trust thy Honour; and without any examination, do as you would have me.

Sir Will. Why, Brother, what a Pox, will you Pimp for your Son? What a Devil, will you make you House a Bawdy House?

Sir Edw. What, will the Must never be gotten out of your old Vessel? Ladies, be pleas'd to Honour my House; and be assur'd, that while you are there,

'tis yours.

He waits on the Ladies, and Ruth.

Belf. Jun. Sir, my Friend and I are just now going to do you Service: I'll pawn my life to you, Sir, I will retrieve your Rebel Son, and immediately restore him to you, and bring him, as he ought to come, on's Knees, with a full Submission.

Sir Will. You will oblige me: Thou gain'st upon me hourly, and I begin to love thee more and more.

Belf. Jun. There's nothing in the World I aim at now but your Love; and I will be bold to say, I shortly will deserve it: But this Business requires haste, for I have laid every thing ready; 'tis almost Bed-time, come Friend. *Exit with Truman.*

Sir Will. Well, I'll say that for him, he is a good natur'd Boy; it makes me weep to think how harsh I have been to him. I'll in to my Brother and expect the event.

Enter Belfond Senior, Shamwell, and Hackum.

Cheat. I value not misfortune, so long as I have my dear Friend still within my Arms.

Sham. My dear, dear Couzen! I will hug thee close to me; I fear'd to have lost thee.

Belf. Sen. How happy am I in the truest, the dearest Friends that ever Man enjoy'd! Well I was so afflicted for you, I was forc'd to make my self Devilish Bowls to comfort me.

Cheat. Your Brother has heard of this great Match you are towards: She has to my knowledge, (for I do all her Law-business for her) 1500 *l.* a year Jointure, and Ten Thousand Pound in Plate, Money, and Jewels; and this damn'd Envious Brother of yours will break it off, if you make not haste and prevent him.

Belf. Sen. My dear Friends you are in the right: Never Man met with such before. I'll disappoint the Rogue my Brother, and the old Prig my Father; adad I'll do it instantly.

Cheat. Come, Squire, haste: Captain, do you follow us.

Exeunt.

Scene Changes to Mrs. Termagant's fine Lodgings.

Enter Belfond Senior, Cheatly, Shamwell, Hackum, Parson.

Mrs. Termagant and her Servants.

Cheat. Madam, the time admits of no longer deliberation; if you take not this opportunity, my Friend here will be ravish'd from us.

Belf. Sen. Ay, Madam, if you take me not now, you will lose me Madam, you will consider what you do.

Term. Well, Mr. Cheatly, you dispose of me as you please. I have ever been guided by your wise advice.

Sham. Come; Parson, do your Office; have you your Book about ye?

Parf. What, do you think I am without the Tools of my Trade?

Cheat. Can't you come presently to the Joyning of hands, and leave out the rest of the Formalities.

Parf. Ay, ay: Come, stand forth.

Belfond Sen. and Mrs. Termagant stand forth.

Enter

Enter Belfond Junior, Truman, Constable, Serjeant, Musqueteers.

Belf. Jun. Here they are : Seize them all.

Cheat. Hell and Damnation ! We are all undone.

Belf. Sen. Hands off ; let me alone : I am going to be Marry'd. You envious Rascal to come just in the nick.

Belf. Jun. Brother, be satisfied, there's nothing but Honour meant to you : 'tis for your Service.

Term. Oh this accursed Wretch to come in this unlucky minute, and ruin all my Fortune.

Belf. Sen. She has fifteen hundred a year Joynture, and ten thousand pound in Money, &c. and I had been Married to her in 3 minutes.

Belf. Jun. You have scap'd the worst of Ruines ; Resist not, if you do, you shall be carry'd by Head and Heels. Your Father will receive you, and be kind, and give you as good an Allowance as ever I had.

Sham. Where's your Warrant ?

Const. 'Tis here, from my Lord Chief Justice.

Belf. Jun. Let me see your Bride that was to be. Oh Mrs. Termagant ! Oh Horror ! Horror ! VVhat a ruin have you scap'd ! This was my Mistress, and still maintained by me : I have a Child by her 3 years old

Term. Impudent Villain ! How dare you lye so basely ?

Belf. Jun. By Heaven 'tis true.

Term. I never saw him in my life before.

Belf. Jun. Yes often, to my Plague. Brother, if I do not prove this, to you, believe me not in ought I e're shall say.

Termagant goes to stab at Belfond Jun. Truman lays hold on her.

Trum. Belfond, look to your self.

Belf. Jun. Ha ! Disarm her. This is another shew of her good Nature. Brother, give me your hand, I'll wait on you ; and you will thank me for your deliverance.

Tru. I am assured you will : You are delivered from the most infamous, and destructive Villains, that ever yet took Sanctuary here.

Belf. Jun. And from two mischiefs you must have for ever sunk under, Incest and Beggary. Those three are only in the VVarrant with my Brother ; him I'll wait upon, bring you the Rest. Hey ! the cry is up ; but we are provided.

A great noise in the Streets, and the Horn Blowing ; an Arrest, an Arrest.

Cheat. Undone, undone, all's lost !

Sham. Ruin'd ; for ever lost !

Hack. I am surprized, and cannot fight my way through.

Belf. Sen. VVhat are all these Rogues ? and that a VVhore ? and am I cheated ?

Belf. Jun. Even so ; come along ; make ready Musketeers. Do you take care of my Brother, and conduct him with the rest to my Unkles House : I must go before, and carry my little Mistress, to make up the business with her Father.

Tru. I'll do it, I warrant you.

Serjeant. VVe are ready.

Exeunt all but Mrs. Termagant.

Term. Oh Vile Misfortune ! had he but staid six minutes, I had Crown'd all

my Revenge with one brave Act, in Marrying of his Brother. Well, I have one piece of Vengeance, which I will execute, or perish : Besides I'll have his Blood, and then I'll dye contented.

Scene the Street.

Enter Belfond Junior, Cheatly, Shamwell, Hackum, Truman.

Constable, Serjeant, Guards.

Tru. VVhat do all these Rabble here ?

Const. Fire amongst 'em.

Serj. Present. *The Debtors run up and down, some without their Breeches, others without their Coats; some out of Balconies; some crying out, Oars, Oars; Sculler, five pound for a Boat, ten pound for a Boat, twenty pound for a Boat. The Inhabitants all come out armed as before; but as soon as they see the Musqueteers they run, and every one shifts for himself.*

Tru. Hey how they run !

Exeunt.

Enter in Sir Edward's House, Sir Edward Belfond, and Attorney.

Sir Edw. This is the time I appointed my Son to bring your Daughter hither. The Witness is a most malicious lying Wench, and can never have credit. Besides, you know an Action will sufficiently stop her Mouth; for, were it true, she can never prove what she says.

Attor. You say right, Sir : next to her being innocent, is the concealing of her shame.

Enter Belfond Jun. and Lucia.

Luc. And can I live to hear my fatal Sentence of parting with you ; Hold Heart a little.

Belf. Jun. It is with some Convulsions I am torn from you ; but I must Marry I cannot help it.

Luc. And must I never see you more ?

Belf. Jun. As a Lover, never ; but your Friend I'll be while I have breath.

Luc. to her self. Heart, do not swell so. This has awakned me, and made me see my Crime : Oh, that it had been sooner !

Belf. Jun. Sir, I beg a thousand pardons, that I should attempt to injure your Family, for it has gone no farther yet : For any Fact, she's innocent ; but 'twas no thanks to me, I am not so. (If a Lie be ever lawful, 'tis in this case.) *aside.*

Sir Edw. Come, pretty Lady, let me present you to your Father : Tho as my Son says, she's innocent ; yet, because his Love had gone so far, I present her with 1500*l.* my Son and you shall be Trustees for her : To-Morrow you shall have the Money.

Belf. Jun. You are the best of all Mankind.

Attor. All the World speaks your Praises justly.

Luc. A Thousand Thanks, Sir, for your bounty : And if my Father please to pardon me this slip, in which I was so far from fact, that I had scarce intention : I will hereafter out live the strictest Nun.

Attorn. Rise : I do pardon you.

Sir Edw. That's well : And if they be not kind to you, appeal to me. It will be

be fit for you to go from hence with the least notice that can be : To Morrow I'll bring the Money. Who are the Ladies you have entrusted me with, Ned?

Exit Attorney and Lucia.

Belf. Jun. *Scrapealls* Neice and Daughter ! The Neice my Father was to give 5000 l. for, for his Son: If you will give me leave, I shall Marry her for nothing; and the other will take my Friend —

Sir Will. How Ned! She's a Puritan?

Belf. Jun. No more than you, Sir: She was bred otherwise, but was fain to comply for peace; she is Beautiful, VVitty to a Miracle; and I beg your consent, for I will die before I Marry without it.

Sir Edw. Dear Ned, thou hast it; but what hast thou done with the *Alsatians*?

Belf. Jun. I have the Rogues in Custody, and my Brother too; whom I Rescu'd in the very Minute he was going to be Marry'd to a VVhore; to my Whore who plagues me continually. I see my Father coming, pray prepare him, while I prepare my Brother for meeting with him; he shall not see me. *Exit.*

Enter Sir William Belfond.

Sir Will. Your Servant Brother: No News of Ned yet?

Sir Edw. Oh, yes; he has your Son, and the three Rogues in Custody, and will bring them hither: Brother, pray resolve not to lose a Son; but use him kindly, and forgive him.

Sir Will. I will, Brother: And let him spend what he will, I'll come up to London, Feast and Revel, and never take a Minutes care while I breath again.

Enter a Servant to Sir Edward.

Servant. Sir, a young Gentleman would speak with you.

Sir Edw. Bid him come in,

Enter Mrs. Termagant in Mans Cloaths.

Term. If you be Sir Edward Belfond, I come to tell you, what concerns your Honour, and my Love.

Sir Edw. I am he.

Term. Know then, Sir, I am Inform'd your Brother, Sir William Belfond's Son, is to Marry *Isabella* the Neice of Mr. *Scrapeall*.

Sir Edward. What then Sir?

Term. Then he invades my right, I have been many Months Contracted to her, and as you are a Man of Honour, I must tell you, we have seal'd that Contract with Mutual Enjoyments.

Sir Will. How! What was my Son to Marry a Whore? I'll to this Damn'd Fellow Instantly, and make him give up my Articles.

Sir Edw. Have patience; be not too rash.

Sir Will. Patience! VVhat to have my Son Marry a VVhore.

Sir Edw. Look you Brother, you must stay a Moment

Enter Belfond Junior.

Sir Will. Oh, Ned, your Brother has scap'd a fine March: This same *Isabella* is Contracted to, and has been Enjoy'd, by this Gentleman, as he calls it: He had like to have Marry'd a VVhore.

Belf. Jun. Yes, that he had; but I will cut the throat of him that affirms that of *Isabella*.

Term. Sir, I demand the protection of your House.

Sir Edw. Hold, Son.

Term. What Devil sent him hither at this time ?

Belf. Jun. I'll bring them to Confront this Rogue, what a Devil's this ? Have we another Brother of that Devil *Termagant's* here ? *aside.*
Exit.

Sir Edw. This is a very odd Story.

Sir Will. Let me go, Brother ; 'tis true enough, But what makes *Ned.* concern'd ?

Sir Edw. Let us examin yet farther.

Enter Belfond Junior, with Isabella, Terefia, and Ruth, and Truman.

Sir Will. Look, here they are all : How the Devil comes this about ?

Term. O Madam, are you here ! I claim your Contract, which I suppose, will not offend you.

Isab. VVhat means this Impudent Fellow ? I ne're saw his Face before.

Term. Yes Madam, you have seen, and more than seen me often, since we were Contracted.

Isab. VVhat Instrument of Villany is this ?

Term. Nay, if you deny : Friends come in.

Enter two Alsatian Affidavit Men.

Friends, do you know this Gentlewoman.

1. *Witness.* Yes, she is Mr. *Scrapeall's* Niece.

2. *Witness.* VVe were both Witness to a Contract of Marriage between you two.

Isab. Oh Impious VVretches ! VVhat Conspiracy is this !

Sir Will. Can any thing be more plain ? They seem Civil, Grave, Substantial Men.

Belf. Jun. Hold, hold, have I found ye ? 'Tis she, it could be no other Devil but her self. *He pulls off her Peruke.*

Sir Will. A Woman !

Sir Edw. Secure those Witnesses.

Belf. Jun. A Woman ! No : She has out-sinn'd her Sex, and is a Devil. Oh Devil, most compleat Devil ! This is the Lady I have been so much of late oblig'd to.

Isab. This is she that told us the fine Story to day.

Teref. I know her Face again : Most Infamous Lying Creature !

Term. I am become desperate : Have at thee. *She snaps a Pistol at Belfond, which only flashes in the Pan, the Ladies shriek.*

Belf. Jun. Thank you Madam : Are not you a Devil ? 'Twas loaden, 'twas well meant truly. *Takes the Pistol from her.*

Sir Edw. Lay hold on her : I'll send her to a place where she shall be tam'd, I never yet heard of such malice.

Sir Will. Dear *Ned.* thou hast so oblig'd me ; thou melt'st my Heart : That thou should'st steal away those Ladies, and save me 5000 £. Now, I hope, Madam, my Son *Tim* shall be your Husband without bargain and Sale :

Isab. No : I can assure you, Sir, I would never have perform'd that bargain of my Unkles : We had determin'd to dispose of our selves before that ; and now are more resolv'd.

Teref.

Teresa. VVe have broken Prison, by the help of these Gentlemen, and I think we must e'en take the Authors of our Liberty.

Isab. VVill not that be a little hard, Cousin, to take their Liberty from them, who have given it, to us ?

Sir Will. VVell, I am disappointed ; but cannot blame thee, *Ned.* [Truman
Enter Belfond Senior. *goesto Teresa.*

Sir Edw. Your Son : Pray use him kindly.

Belf. Sen. I have been betrayed, cheated, and abused : Upon my Knees I beg your Pardon, and never will offend you more ; adad, I will not : I thought they had been the honestest, the finest Gentlemen in *England* ; and it seems they are Rogues, Cheats, and Blockheads.

Sir Will. Rise *Tim*, I profess thou makest me weep, thou hast subdued me ; I forgive thee, I see all human Care is vain, I will allow thee 500*l.* a year, and come, and live with Ease and Pleasure here : I'll Feast, and Revel, and wear my self with Pain and Care no more.

Belf. Sen. A thousand Thanks : I'll never displease you while I live agen ; adad I wont. Here's an Alteration, I ne're had good word from him before.

Sir Will. I would have Married you to that pretty Lady : But your Brother has been too hard for you.

Belf. Sen. She's very pretty : But 'tis no matter, I am in no such haste, but I can stay and see the world first.

Sir Edw. VVelcome dear Nephew, to my House and me : And now my dear Son be free, and before all this Company let me know all the Incumbrances you have upon you.

Belf. Jun. That good natur'd Lady is the only one that's heavy upon me, I have her Child in my possession, which she says, is mine.

Term. Has he my Child ; then I am undone for ever — Oh curs'd misfortune!

Sir Edw. Look you Madam, I will settle an Annuity of 100*l.* a year upon you so long as you shall not disturb my Son ; And for your Child, I'll breed her up and provide for her like a Gentlewoman : But if you are not quiet you shall never see her more.

Term. You speak like a Noble Gentleman : I'll strive to compose my self. I am at last subdued, but will not stay to see the Triumphs — *Ex. hastily.*

Sir Will. VVell, dear *Ned*, dost owe any Money ?

Belf. Jun. No, my dear Father, no : You have been too bountiful for that : I have five hundred Guineas in my Cabinet.

Sir Edw. Now Madam, if you please to accept him for a Husband, I will settle Fifteen Hundred Pound a Year on him in present, which shall be your Jointure. Besides that, your own money shall be laid out in Land and settled on you too. And at my Death the rest of my Estate.

Isab. You do me too much Honour, you much out-bid my Value.

Belf. Jun. You best of Fathers, and of all Mankind, I throw my self thus at your Feet ; let me embrace your knees, and kiss those hands.

Sir Edw. Come rise, and kiss these hands.

Belf. Jun. A long farewell to all the Vanity and Lewdness of Youth : I offer my self at your feet as a Sacrifice without a blemish now !

Isab.

Isab. Rise, I beseech you, rise.

Teres. Your offers, Sir, are better much than I could expect or can deserve.

Tru. That's impossible: The VVealth of both the *Indies* could not buy you from me I am sure.

Ruth. Come, come, I have been Governess, I know their minds. Come give your hands where you have given your Hearts. Here Friend *Truman*: first take this.

Teres. My Governess will have it so.

Sir Edw. Joy Sir, be ever with you: Please to make my House your own.

Isab. How can I besecure you will not fall to your old courses agen?

Belf. Jun. I have been so sincere in my Confessions, you may trust me; but I call Heaven to witness, I will hereafter be entirely yours. I look on Marriage as the most solemn Vow a Man can make; and 'tis by consequence, the basest Perjury to break it.

Ruth. Come, come, I know your mind too, take him, take him.

Isab. If Fate will have it so.

Belf. Jun. Let me receive this blessing on my knees.

Isab. You are very devout of late.

Sir Edw. A thousand blessings on you both.

Sir Will. Perpetual happiness attend you both.

Belf. Sen. Brother and Madam! I wish you Joy from my heart, adad I do! Tho between you and I Brother, I intend to have my swing at Whoring, and Drinking, as you had, before I come to it tho.

Sir Edw. Here! bring in these Rogues!

The Constable brings in Cheatly, Shamwell, and Hackum.

Come Rascals, I shall take a care to see examples made of you.

Cheat. We have substantial Bail.

Sir Edw. Ple see it shall be substantial Bail: it is my Lord Chief Justices Warrant, returnable to none but him: But I will prosecute you, I assure you.

Cheat. Squire, dear Squire.

Hack. Good noble Squire speak for us.

Sham. Dear Cousin!

Belf. Sen. Oh Rogues! Cousin, you have Couzen'd me: you made a *Put*, a *Caravan*, a *Bubble* of me: I gave a Judgment for 1600*l.* and had but 250, but there's some Goods they talk of; but ife're I be catch'd again I'll be hanged.

Sir Will. Unconscionable Villains! The Chancery shall relieve us.

Sir Edw. I'll Rout this knot of most pernicious Knaves, for all the Priviledge of your Place. Was ever such impudence suffered in a Government? *Ireland's* Conquer'd: *Wales* Subdu'd: *Scotland* United: But there are some few spots of Ground in *London*, just in the face of the Government, unconquer'd yet, that hold in Rebellion still. Methinks 'tis strange, that places so near the Kings Palace should be no part of his Dominions: 'Tis a shame to the Societies of the Law to Countenance such Practices: Should any place be shut against the Kings VVrit or *Posse Comitatus*? Take them away and those two VVitneses.

The Constable and Watch bales 'em out.

Belf. Sen. Away with 'em, Rogues: Rascals, damn'd Priggs.

Sir

Sir Edw. Come Ladies, I have sent for some Neighbours to rejoyce with us. VVe have Fiddles: Let's dance a brisk round or two, and then we'll make a Collation.

In the Flourish before the Dance Enter Scrapeall.

Scrap. Oh *Sir William*, I am undone; ruin'd: the Birds are flown, Read the Note they left behind 'em.

Sir Will. Peace, they are Dancing, they have dispos'd of themselves.

Scrap. Oh Seed of Serpents! Am I cheated then? I'll try a Trick of Law, you Frogs of the bottomless Pit, I will and instantly — What Dancing too? then they are Fallen indeed.

They Dance.

Exit Scrapeall hastily.

Sir Edw. Come Brother, now who has been in the right, your or I?

Sir Will. You have: Prithee do not triumph.

Belf'gun. Farewell for ever all the Vices of the Age.

There is no peace but in a Vertuous Life,
Nor lasting Joy but in a tender Wife.

Sir Edw. You, that would breed your Children well, by Kindness and Liberality endear 'em to you: And teach 'em by Example, Severity spoils ten, for one it mends:

If you'd not have your Sons desire your ends,
By Gentleness and Bounty makes those Sons your Friends.

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Exeunt Omnes.

EPILOGUE.

Spoken by *Mrs Mountfort*.

YE mighty scowlers of the narrow Seas,
Who suffer not a Bark to sail in peace,
But with your Tire of Culverins ye roar,
Bring 'em by th' Lee, and Rumidge all their store;
Our Poet duck'd, and look'd as if half dead,
At every Shot that whistled o're his Head.
Frequent Engagements ne're could make him bold.
He sneak'd into a corner of the Hold.
Since he submits, pray ease him of his fear,
And with a joynt Applause bid him appear,
Good Criticks don't insult and domineer.

Hec

*He fears not Sparks, who with brisk dress and meen,
Come not to hear or see, but to be seen.*

*Each prunds himself, and with a Languishing Eye,
Designs to kill a Lady by the by.*

Let each fantastick ugly Beau and Shape,

Little of Man, and very much of Ape,

Admire himself, and let the Poet scape.

*Ladies, your Anger most he apprehends,
And is grown past the Age of making Friends
Of any of the Sex whom he offends.*

No Princess frowns, no Hero rants and whines,

Nor his weak Sense embroyder'd with strong lines :

No Battles, Trumpets, Drums, not any dye;

No Mortal Wounds, to please your Cruelty ;

Who like not any thing but Tragedy.

With fond,unnatural extravagancies,

Stolen from the silly Authors 's Romances.

Let such the Chamber-maids aversion be,

Pray be you reconcil'd to Comedy.

For when we make you merry you must own

You are much prittier than when you Frown.

With charming smiles you use to conquer still,

The melancholly look's not apt to kill.

Our Poet begs you who adorn his Sphere,

This Shining Circle, will not be severe.

Here no Chit Chat, here no Tea Tables are.

The Cant he hopes will not be long unknown,

'Tis almost grown the Language of the Town.

For Fops, who feel a wretched want of Wit,

Still set up something that may pass for it.

He begs that you will often grace his Play,

And lets you know Munday's his visiting day.

FINIS.

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